

# California GARDEN

January/February 2009

Volume 100 No 1 \$4.00

## Fabulous Fungi



*California Garden*  
Retrospective: 1909–1928

Choosing Your Turfgrass



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in Carlsbad, California

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Seniors 60+ .....	Children 3-10 .....	\$3
Children 3-10 .....	<b>Sweet Pea Maze</b> .....	Free

## 2009 Special Events:

 March 28 <sup>th</sup> Kids' Day	 April 19 <sup>th</sup> Photo Workshop
 April 4 <sup>th</sup> Bluegrass Day	 April 25 <sup>th</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup> Orchids Festival
 April 4-5 & 18-19 Arts & Crafts Fairs	 May 2 <sup>nd</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> Exotic Plant Sale
 April 18 <sup>th</sup> Red Hat Ladies Day	 May 9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> Bonsai Show & Sale
 April 18 <sup>th</sup> Blues Day	 May 10 <sup>th</sup> Mother's Day



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## FEATURES

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- Antique Tractor Wagon Ride
- Armstrong Garden Center
- Sweet Pea Maze
- Sluice Mining
- Rose and Theme Gardens
- Poinsettia Display
- American Flag of Flowers
- Fresh Strawberries
- Picnic Areas
- Picture Taking Areas
- Santa's Playground

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# California GARDEN

THE MAGAZINE FOR HANDS-ON GARDENERS AND FLORAL DESIGNERS

January/February 2009, Volume 100, Number 1

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### *California Garden*

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San Diego Floral Association, 619-232-5762, Casa del Prado, Room 105, San Diego, CA 92101

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**FLOWER SHOWS:** Show chairperson, please contact *California Garden* if you'd like the magazine sold at your show.

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# President's Letter

Hello Floral members. Please allow me to introduce the *California Garden Centennial Fund*. This fund is established to provide the means to fittingly commemorate the Floral Association's achievement in continuously publishing *California Garden* since 1909.

The centennial of our magazine is hugely significant. Only one other garden magazine in the entire United States equals our long publication record. Various activities will mark the centennial, but the centerpiece is the planned publication of a commemorative history volume. We will produce a handsome and informative book appropriate to this once-in-a-century celebration.

I invite you to join me in supporting this special cause. As an extra incentive, I am very pleased to announce that a matching fund has been established. This means that matching dollars will instantly double the power of your support.

## *California Garden Centennial Fund: Every Gift Matched*

A gift to the *California Garden Centennial Fund* celebrates a significant San Diego Floral Association achievement: one century of uninterrupted publication of *California Garden* magazine. The Fund will underwrite the commemoration of *California Garden's* first 100 years and contribute to its financial future.

To kick off our Centennial Fund efforts, a donor has agreed to match every gift received by June 30, 2009, up to a total of \$5,000. This matching fund doubles the power of your support.

Giving levels correspond to some favorite California natives. Like these long-surviving trees, *California Garden* has shown its power of endurance. With your help, this venerable publication will continue to grow and do its fine work of educating and informing.

*Nancy Carol Carter*

Nancy Carol Carter  
President, 2008-09

SEQUOIA*	REDWOOD*	TORREY PINE*	SYCAMORE	LIVE OAK	OTHER AMOUNT
\$ 1,000	\$ 500	\$ 250	\$ 100	\$ 50	\$ _____

\* Donors at these levels and higher will receive a limited edition, specially bound copy of the *California Garden* centennial book to be published by the Floral Association in 2009. This keepsake volume reprints a lively selection of articles from the past 100 years of the magazine and permanently records key events in San Diego Floral Association history. **Make checks payable to: SDFA (note "Centennial Fund").**



*Aloe dichotoma* trunk

## MOVING?

Please let us know.

Help us keep membership costs down by informing us of your new address promptly. Fax it to us at 619-232-5762 or mail it to: SDFA, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684. Changes of address can also be submitted by email to [membership@sdfloral.org](mailto:membership@sdfloral.org).



# SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

## SPECIAL WEDDING FLOWER ARRANGING SERIES WORKSHOPS

### ☐ January 29

#### Bridal Bouquet

This bouquet arranging course for beginners features a demonstration and workshop on making hand tied, classic round and cascade style bouquets. Bring cutters or flower knife; all other materials will be provided.

**Cost: \$32 for members; \$42 for non-members**

**Instructor: Lucy Kramer**

### ☐ February 5

#### Corsages and Boutonnieres

With a few flowers and some creativity, you can create traditional corsages and boutonnieres. This workshop includes a demonstration and hands-on experience. Bring flower and wire cutters; all other material will be provided.

**Cost: \$32 for members; \$42 for non-members**

**Instructor: Lucy Kramer**

### ☐ February 12

#### Halos And Flower Girl Accessories

Go beyond the basics and stretch your skills. Work with floral materials in a creative way, bending, wiring, cutting and shaping foliage and flowers to enhance your arrangement. Bring flowers, foliage and container.

**Cost: \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members**

**Teacher: Lucy Kramer**

## It's easy to register!

**Just fill out this form (or a copy of it) and mail it to San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado, #105 San Diego, CA 92101-1684**

### PAYMENT FOR CLASSES MUST BE INCLUDED.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

All classes run from 9:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m., and are held in Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA. Coffee and sweets will be provided; bring your own lunch and clippers. Call Kathy Page for more information about San Diego Floral Association workshops at 619-422-2845. To register and pay, call 619-232-5762. Classes limited to 10 persons and must be prepaid.

## In This Issue

This is the time of year when we stoke the fire and hope to listen to the sound of raindrops. Besides our general gardening chores, it's a good time to philosophize about the general health of the garden.

We have seldom, if ever, seen the issue of fungi addressed in a general gardening magazine so we very much enjoyed the research and bringing you state of the art information on this fascinating biological form. The impacts are far more reaching than we imagined.

A beautiful lawn is the concern of almost every homeowner, yet what seems so simple and common gets complex very quickly as not all grasses are the same. It's a good time to consider what will work best for your needs.

Enjoy your post holiday gardening catalogs as you plan for an ever beautiful spring, but don't forget to appreciate the blossoming beauty of our cool season.

## You are invited to subscribe to California GARDEN

**Your subscription includes membership in  
SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION!**

1-Year Subscription: \$20

2-Year Subscription: \$35

(Please add \$6 per year for postage to foreign destinations.)

With your subscription, you'll receive the magazine, our newsletter, access to the San Diego Floral Association horticultural library and member discounts on events, trips and classes.

To sign up for your subscription today, please print (or copy) the form below and return it to:  
San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado #105,  
San Diego, CA 92101-1684.

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CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Interesting Camellia Facts

One of our favorite seasonal flowers that thrives in our warm winter climate is the camellia. Here are a few things you may not know about them courtesy of E.C. (Gene) Snooks:

- Camellia plants can grow for 200 to 300 years.
- They can grow into tree form. In Japan, they are chopped down and used for charcoal.
- A few camellia plants at monasteries in Japan and China have been dated back 400 to 500 years.
- Camellias were introduced into the United States in the early 1800s, first arriving in New Jersey.
- The oldest Camellia Club is in Boston, Massachusetts,

where most of the camellias are grown in greenhouses due to the cold winter weather.

- William Ackerman of Maryland is working to develop cold hardy varieties of camellias that can withstand temperatures of 10 to 15 degrees below zero Fahrenheit.
- There is a woman growing camellias in Bergen, Norway outdoors.
- Camellias are grown in Germany and in Switzerland outside on southern slopes of the Alps.
- It is too hot in southern Florida to grow camellias successfully, but some will grow in northern Florida.
- It takes seven years to grow a camellia plant from seed until it blooms.

—Dorothy Carroll

**Don't miss the annual show of the San Diego Camellia Society.**

**February 7 & 8, 2009, Saturday 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Sunday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. See back cover for details.**

**It is free and is open to the public in Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park.**

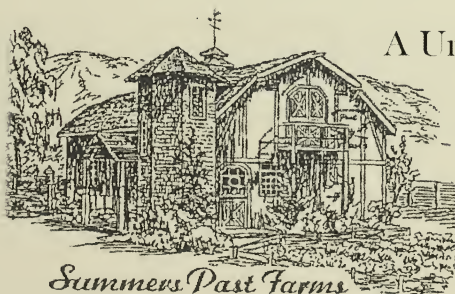


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# Donating Mature Plants

Dig in!

## What to do with healthy plants you no longer want

It's a dilemma no plant-lover wants to face: what to do with mature plants you just don't want anymore? Whether you're moving into a new home that is not landscaped to your tastes, or you're just sick of staring at the king palm you put in five years ago, the thought of throwing perfectly healthy plants in the dumpster just doesn't sit well with most green thumbs, and the thought of trying to convince someone to buy the old plants seems impossible. But what about that third option: donation.

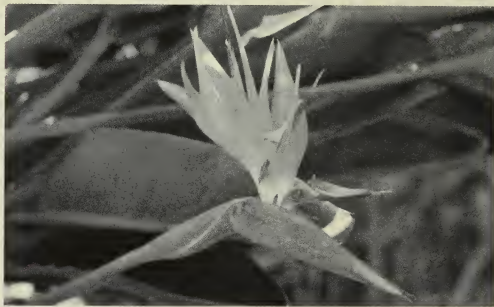
Thankfully, there are a number of organizations countywide that can help take healthy, mature plants off your hands if you're willing to part with them for free. It not only saves the plant, but provides others with an opportunity to reuse your unwanted item in a way that may end up benefiting and beautifying the community at-large.

If wanting to go this route, your first, best bet is to contact your local garden club, or, if you know the plant you want to donate has a dedicated plant society, the related society. (For a complete listing of SDFA affiliate clubs and societies, see page 33.) These groups may have members who are interested in taking such items as roses, bird of paradise, agapanthus, plumeria, etc., either for their own personal use or for beautification projects that their group is working on. Whether they help you dig up or transport the plant is up to each individual group.

Second, some local area nurseries are willing to talk donation, if you call about or bring by a plant that you want to give up. Nurseries like Mission Hills Nursery ([www.missionhillsnursery.com](http://www.missionhillsnursery.com)) will accept almost all donated mature plants, like bird of paradise or live Christmas trees, then work to find homes for them, either through additional donation to local plant groups or via sale. Walter Andersen's Nurseries ([www.walterandersen.com](http://www.walterandersen.com)) will accept unique items, or some potted plants that are overgrown for donation, and in the rare case, exchange. Yasuda Nursery is interested in unique items as well, such as black pine. Like some other nurseries, their donation interests are specific, and they treat each plant on a case-by-case basis after an in-person review.

Third, if you're looking to move a large item like a palm tree, you'll want to try a contractor or wholesale grower like South Coast Growers ([www.southcoastgrowers.com](http://www.southcoastgrowers.com)). Because palms are in such high demand, many growers and contractors are actively looking to collect unwanted, healthy trees. Businesses like South Coast Growers are happy to take trees like the Canary Island Date Palm (*Phoenix canariensis*), and in some cases will even pay for the tree. For less unusual palms, growers may offer to remove the donated tree for free, a costly and sometimes tricky proposition for the mover. If you do decide to sell or donate a tree, make sure you're dealing with a reputable business, as there are many scam artists out there; feel free to ask for references, and check to make sure they're a member of the Better Business Bureau. The time spent will be well worth it when the removal job is done right.

Fourth, and for the most adventurous at heart, try posting the details of your excesses on Craigslist's Farm and Garden listing online and see if someone bites. Some contractors and plant lovers may see the item and offer to take the plants off of your hands for free. (Keep in mind that some people post their plants for sale, so be sure to indicate that you're willing to donate the plant if that is your intention.) —Amy R. Wood



Help your unwanted 'birds' find a home through donation.

## The San Diego Floral Association thanks the organizations that participated in our 2008 December Nights Gift to the Community.

Poway Garden Club  
Bonita Valley Garden Club  
Point Loma Garden Club  
Village of La Jolla Garden Club  
La Jolla Garden Club  
Rancho San Diego Garden Club  
Mission Hills Garden Club  
Chula Vista Garden Club  
San Carlos Garden Club  
Dos Valles Garden Club  
San Diego Floral Association

Floral Guild  
Hon Non Bo Association  
Friends of Balboa Park  
Natural History Museum  
Quail Botanical Garden  
Cabrillo National Monument  
Japanese Friendship Garden  
Friends of Marston  
San Diego Camellia Society  
San Diego Fern Society  
San Diego Herb Club

Bromeliad Study Group of  
Balboa Park  
San Diego Bromeliad Society  
San Diego Geranium Society  
San Diego County Orchid Society  
David Root  
Dutch Flower  
Point Loma Village Florist  
Urban Seed  
Mission Hills Nursery  
Walter Andersen Nursery



# Blooming Aloes

## Discover Tree Aloes in Balboa Park's Desert Garden

**B**alboa Park's Desert Garden, located on the west side of Park Boulevard across from the Prado area, is home to several species of striking tree aloes that can be seen in full bloom each winter. From December through late January, one can expect to see brightly hued inflorescences ranging from pale yellows to deep red-oranges. With flowers set on long panicles, rich with nectar and pollen, these aloes bring the garden to life with hummingbirds and insects.

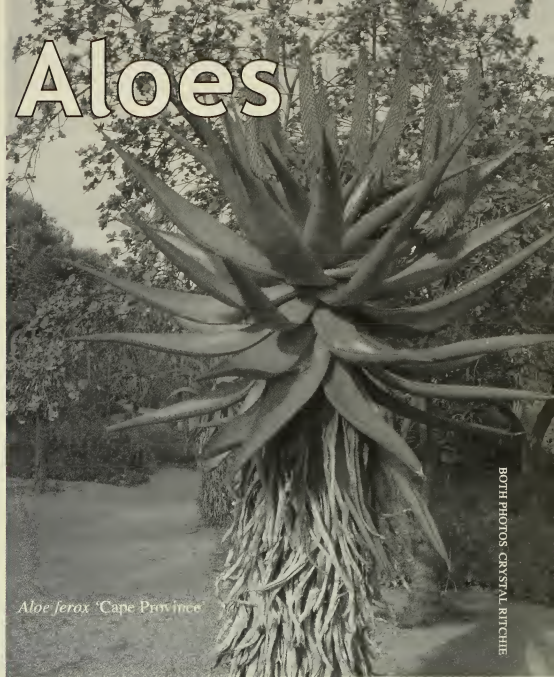
Specimens of note include a mature *Aloe dichotoma* that stands sentinel along the switchback trail leading down into Florida Canyon. Native to the deserts of western South Africa, and Namibia, it is a truly exotic and architecturally structured plant that grows in rocky xeric soils. *Aloe dichotoma* has a unique thick white trunk coated in a cracked papery bark and soft yellow flower spikes. It is commonly known as the Maiden's Quiver Tree, because it has been used by the Bushmen of South Africa to make quivers for their arrows. In addition, it is known to provide an ideal habitat for African weaver birds which benefit from the protection provided by its sharp leaf edges and tips.

Another tree aloe that merits appreciation is the impressive *Aloe barbarae*, also known as *Aloe bainesii*. In habitat in South Africa, *A. barbarae* can reach up to 50 feet in height, making it the tallest of the tree aloes. In the Desert Garden there are specimens over 25 feet tall, with rose-pink blooms arranged on rosettes of leaves 3-4 feet across. This species is frost-sensitive and requires porous soils with little supplemental irrigation. Those attributes combined make it well suited for a drought-tolerant coastal garden.

The stunning *Aloe ferox* has tightly bound deep orange flower spikes reminiscent of a candelabrum. Native to the Cape region of South Africa, *A. ferox* can grow up to 30 feet tall in habitat, and usually around 6 feet in a garden setting. One identifying feature of this aloe is the persistence of the old dried leaves around the single stalk creating a stiff skirt that serves to protect the plant from the hot African sun. *A. ferox* is widely used and sold commercially for the medicinal properties extracted from the leaf juice.

"Arborescens" means tree-like, leading anyone to believe that *Aloe arborescens* fits into the tree aloe category. Ironically, this species is not a true tree aloe, but has a multi-branching habit from which the name is derived. *A. arborescens* is a large shrub with solid orange flowers emerging on flower spikes up to two feet long. This aloe is widely adaptable and can be grown from the sea bluffs to the foothills, provided it is not subject to a hard frost.

Amongst the many varieties of aloes in the Desert Garden, the tree aloes stand apart, and in any season can stop us in our tracks as we admire the fantastical forms. In winter, the strong shapes and shadows cast are accented by colorful blooms, and reward those in search of unexpected botanical intrigue, during the quieter times of year. The Desert Garden is open daily, and free to the public year-round. —Crystal Ritchie



*Aloe ferox* 'Cape Province'

BOTH PHOTOS: CRYSTAL RITCHIE



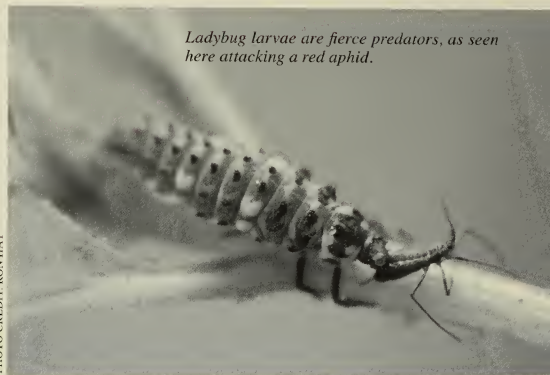
*Aloe dichotoma*

# Friend or Foe: Ladybug Larvae Dig in!

Ladybugs (*Coccinellidae*)—also known as ladybirds and lady beetles—are probably the most recognizable insects in your garden besides bees. With the rounded red back sprinkled with black polka dots, ladybugs are as iconic as they are helpful. Well known for their pest-management abilities, gardeners far and wide actively encourage their stays; some gardeners even purchase the hungry beetles from local nurseries to help when their plants are infested with pests like aphids. With over 400 species in North America, they are an organic gardener's delight.

Less recognizable to the untrained eye, however, is the ladybug larvae. Small, long, black and spiny, with little yellowish-orange stripes, the alligator-like ladybug larva looks far removed from its future, adult self, and can get confused with more destructive insects' young. It is for this reason that many gardeners accidentally spray the ladybug larvae from their plants' leaves, thinking they're ridding themselves of a foe, when in actuality, they're killing one of the best garden friends they could have.

Like the adult ladybug, the ladybug larvae feeds on your garden foes, and has a particular affinity for aphids, though they will also feed on scale, mites, insect eggs, thrips and more (even each other if they run out of food!). Voracious eaters who can eat their weight in prey each day, they'll travel the length of your garden and back looking for pests to eat over the approximate 10-20 days of this life-cycle. They make their way through your garden on six, developed looking legs, as they are wingless. Protecting these larvae as they munch their way to adulthood can lead to significant pest management benefits. You're most likely to start seeing these friends in your garden in mid-to-late summer,



Ladybug larvae are fierce predators, as seen here attacking a red aphid.

PHOTO CREDIT: RON HAY

though they can appear earlier depending on temperature and other weather conditions.

Of course, in addition to keeping your eye out for larvae, keep your eye out for ladybug eggs and ladybug pupa. Ladybug eggs are very small, about one millimeter in size, and can range between cream and orange in color. They are tall and slender and are usually laid in small clusters near prey on leaves and plant stems. Pupa—the stage between larva and adulthood—are usually found attached to the underside of a leaf; they are slightly round, and are already sporting the spots that will make them so distinctive as adults. —Amy R. Wood

## Meet the Masters 2009

The Village Garden Club of La Jolla

presents

### Preston Bailey

in his premiere West Coast public appearance

This internationally celebrated event planner and floral designer from New York has been featured in *Vogue*, *Vanity Fair*, *Town and Country*, and in the movie, *Sex in the City*. He has orchestrated spectacular events for Donald Trump, Joan Rivers, Oprah, and for weddings the world over.

Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009 1:30 p.m.

Sherwood Auditorium at MOCA, La Jolla

700 Prospect Street, La Jolla

Your reservation also includes Complimentary Valet Parking and a Reception immediately following next door at Wisteria Cottage

\$55 for VGCLJ members \$65 for non-members

\$250 per person includes Private Cocktail Reception with the speaker in a La Jolla home

6:30 p.m. March 4<sup>th</sup> and one ticket to the event

Tax deductible proceeds from this event will benefit VGCLJ's Schoolyard Gardening Grant Program

Your check is your reservation. Checks should be made out to VGCLJ and mailed to: The Village Garden Club of La Jolla.

6366 Cardeno Drive, La Jolla, California 92037

For further information, please call 858-454-7467



## SDFA February General Meeting guest speaker Victoria Kastner discusses San Simeon's jewel

As the San Diego Floral Association celebrates the hundredth year of continuous publication of *California Garden*, we will take an historical look at the extraordinary Hearst Castle and its gardens with noted author and architectural historian, Victoria Kastner. She will discuss her soon to be published book, *Hearst Castle, The Gardens and The Land*. In her lecture Victoria will elaborate on the 28 year spirited collaboration between Julia Morgan, California's most prominent woman architect, and publisher William Randolph Hearst, as well as recent land acquisitions to the estate.

Hearst Castle was once known as La Cuesta Encantada, or the "Enchanted Hill." We will learn about the 165 room grand estate and ranch that was built between 1920 and 1940. Of interest to San Diegans to will be the link between Hearst Castle and our beloved Balboa Park and eminent local architect and authority on Spanish architecture, Richard Requa.

Victoria Kastner has studied over 5,000 letters of William Randolph Hearst, the Hearst art collection and the buildings of San Simeon. She joined the staff there in 1979 and is resident historian. She is also the author of *Hearst Castle, The Biography of a Country House*, which offers readers a photographic tour of the stately home and insight into the Hearts' luxurious and busy social life with intimate anecdotes."

Victoria is an enthralling speaker, so please join us on February 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego CA. For more information, call 619-232-5762. Prior to the meeting an optional catered dinner is available by paid reservation at a cost of \$12 for SDFA members and \$15 for non-members. Your reservation must be made prior to Monday, February 16. —Connie Brown

## Gardening for Floral Arrangements

### Grow your own materials for personal, original arrangements

Have you ever been disappointed by how fast flowers purchased for a floral arrangement wilt? Or have you needed a centerpiece for a luncheon or dinner event and just not had the time to go and pick it up? What to do? I have the answer and it has served me well on numerous occasions.

Grow your own flowers and foliage. That way you can always have something beautiful and original for the table, or for any other part of the house that you want to look fresh and clean such as in the bathrooms or on a bedside table.

Even if you are not a great gardener or know little about floral arranging, using your own fresh materials allows greater creativity and freedom in your design. As you embrace this concept, you'll find yourself looking at plants in your yard and at the nurseries in new ways. It's likely you will gradually want to grow more plants with interesting foliage and grow fewer of the common types of flowers sold for floral bouquets.

Besides saving money and gas by using your own floral material, you may save water by growing more foliage plants and fewer flowers. Most importantly, you likely will feel a great sense of accomplishment and pride in growing and creating your very own unique arrangements.

In fact, making arrangements from greenery in my garden gives me some of the same feelings of independence and satisfaction as making compost from kitchen scraps, or growing my own fruits and vegetables and then making them part of my lunch or dinner.



You don't need lots of garden space to follow this plan unless you are making huge arrangements. Even then, there are ways you can make use of many items in your own area.

Most arrangements for the table can be done with just a few pieces of each kind of foliage and a few flowers or no flowers at all, just interesting, colorful leaves. In fact, arrangements for table settings should be kept low and on the

small-side so that guests can easily converse without bending their heads to talk around a center piece that is too tall.

Many common landscape plants are suitable for incorporating into arrangements. Most of you have large bushes or trees nearby that could be clipped and used. Some foliage available year round includes raphiolepis, eugenia and carissa. Common areas and open fields are other sources of materials. Your neighbors may be glad to share their greenery in return for an arrangement. Just make two and give one away!

Since I live in a condo, my own arrangements come from the common area in back of my home and from containers on my three small porches. I also try to have dried and silk floral items on hand to add to my arrangements when my own fresh supply is inadequate. Gnarled roots, wood bark and old palm fronds cut to shape also occasionally contribute to my designs.

Why not give it a try soon? Open your eyes to the plants right around you and see if you can come up with a pretty arrangement made with nearby greenery.. —Barbara P. Clark



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California Poppies - Photo by Jodi Shagg [Inharmonyherbs.com](http://Inharmonyherbs.com)



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# San Diego Wild Edibles

*Lovely Oak woodland dweller. Blewits (*Lepista nuda*) are regarded as one of the most beautiful mushrooms in San Diego County. They are also prized for their delicate flavor.*



# Fabulous Fungi

Neglected natives help your garden thrive and more

By Lucy Warren

Mushrooms are an acquired taste, complex earthy and delicate, yet always a little mysterious. Seldom the principle culinary ingredient, they usually perform their magic behind the scenes adding depth and richness. In addition to their elegance, fungi have the capability of striking fear, for some can be fatal, just as others provide compounds that can cure fatal diseases. But few of us are aware of the complexity of this fascinating botanical kingdom.

Over a decade ago when a good friend's husband joined the San Diego Mycological Society, my eyes rolled back as I envisioned dreary scientists, ultimate plant nerds and over-the-top gardeners, mixed in with a few gourmets. Mycology literally means "fungus study." I couldn't imagine how people could focus on such a limited topic. But then again, when I was ten I couldn't imagine how people could possibly eat or, ick, actually like caviar. Fortunately, I grew up and gained more appreciation for both.

Gardening books seldom, if ever, reference fungi. And, few gardeners purposefully propagate them (although this is changing a little). In fact, scientifically speaking, fungi dwell in their own organic kingdom. They share similarities with both the plant and animal kingdoms, but are distinctively different than both. And the kingdom is vast—it is estimated to include approximately 1.5 million separate species. Just think of the opportunity for cultivars!

Fungi arrived early in the evolution of living organisms. Like ferns, they propagate by spores, not seeds. Like animals, they do not produce their own food but rely on other organic sources. Unlike plants, they neither have vascular systems nor produce chlorophyll. As a result they can live in dark places, such as underground. Like plants, they can directly absorb minerals. Like microbes, they can live in extreme environments, but are adapted to specific ones.

One of earth's earliest terrestrial life forms, lichen, is actually a symbiotic partnership of fungus and either algae or cyanobacteria. Ever so slowly lichen extract minerals from bare rock and synthesize them into plant-absorbable material that forms soil, making it available to support plant growth. And soil, as we all know, is the mixture of rock particles and organic material (usually with lots of bio-organisms mixed in).

## Ecological Role of Fungi

Although largely invisible to all but a probing investigator, fungi play a huge role in the soil food web and are the alpha and omega of the food chain. They synthesize organic material, which becomes progressively available to larger and larger organisms, until each dies and again becomes eligible for decomposition and re-absorption by the fungi and bacteria.

For the most part, like Rodney Dangerfield, the bacteria and fungi get no respect, yet without these important organisms

working in the detritus of our lives, we would literally be in deep doo-doo. Organic decomposition is a major role of fungi in our environment. Along with bacteria, fungi recycle carbon, nitrogen and essential mineral nutrients, that is, non-living organic material. These fungi work silently, from decomposing fallen trees to eating away at cowpies in meadows, even cleaning up toxic waste sites—including absorption of dangerous substances such as mercury.

Some fungi are parasitic, in that they may take advantage of a host organism for the parasite's survival. These fungi need a host and most require a specific species or family. Usually they do not kill the host since they depend on it for their own survival, but by utilizing the host's resources they may further weaken it. Every year fungus, such as rust, ruins billions of dollars of plant crops. The parasitic fungi invade plants and animals alike, from single-celled diatoms to animals and humans (yeast infections and athletes foot, as examples). As we look at these in a larger context, the parasitic role is also important in nature, for these fungi do not take hold in plants or animals with strong immune systems, but rather in those which have compromised immune systems. A healthy plant or animal will strike back and bombard the fungi with chemicals to ward off or minimize the invasion.

Then there are the symbiotic fungi that may invade or cohabitate with a host, enhancing the effectiveness and health of both. Picture a whole front yard full of mushrooms and fungi—not exactly a traditional landscape. Yet, if you are driving past a beautiful, well-designed and healthy California native landscape and look just a little deeper, that's exactly what you will find!



*Chicken of the woods (Laetiporus sulphureus) mushrooms are one of the first mushrooms to emerge in early fall well before our rainy season. They are also known as Sulfur shelf mushrooms. Their stunning yellow and pink coloration are hard to miss. Chicken of the woods are considered a parasite but they will continue blooming from a fallen tree for decades.*

PHOTO: PAUL MANSOURA



## At the Root Level

Most of us have heard the expression, “feed the soil, not the plants.” Soil science has shifted away from the false wisdom of just throwing chemicals at plants to increase production. Current realization is that maintaining healthy soil is much more complex than adding a bag of 5-10-5 with a few micronutrients.

Garden soil full of healthy fungi and microorganisms contributes to healthy productive plants. It's that simple. Not only are the decomposing-fungi working on recycling the organic material back into a rich usable form for higher life forms, but tiny fungus mycelia are working to increase the root area of the plants by 1,000 times! Each microscopic mycelium is more than 100 times smaller than a root hair.

The symbiosis of the mycelium of the fungus and the plant root is called mycorrhiza. The term comes from Latin: *myco* meaning fungus and *rhiza* meaning root. Interestingly, it is estimated that 90 percent of all plants have a micorrhizal symbiont.

In the past couple of decades, we have come to better understand the roles of these miniature powerhouses in creating healthy, productive landscapes. Millions of mycelia attached to the rootlets of a plant contribute to increasing availability of soil nutrients. Just as important in our dry climate, the mycelia are so small that they are capable of breaking through the surface tension of whatever tiny droplets of water are available in the soil. Enhanced hundreds of times beyond the actual surface of the root hair, this optimizes nutrient and water uptake, improving the vitality and survival of the plant.

Have you ever looked at the difference between a plowed field and an undisturbed native landscape area after a heavy storm? Far more soil washes away from the field. Joined together in virtual underground mats within the soil matrix, the micorrhiza hold the soil aggregates together and reduce erosion. Yes, this happens even after firestorms, as the micorrhiza are underground.

Even upscale nurseries now are investing in mycorrhiza and inoculating their stock to produce healthier plants that will transplant and take hold more easily when set in the ground.

## Growing Culinary Mushrooms

Yes, it is possible to grow your own mushrooms. Many people, enticed by mushroom growing kits, have tried. Do know that they are very sensitive to the environment. Unless you plenty of time to monitor them, a shaded or dark area with constant moisture—not too much and not too little—and a sterile environment, you may be disappointed. They are very sensitive and not at all forgiving. One of the more popular mushrooms that has been grown successfully in San Diego and grows in native riparian areas is the oyster mushroom. The San Diego Mycological Society gives classes on growing your own mushrooms.

## Mushrooms in the Wild

Even though we live in a dry climate, there are many types of mushrooms that are native to San Diego County. The San Diego Natural History Museum not only has an herbarium where they preserve examples of the native flora of the county, but also a mycorium where they are collecting and preserving dried examples of the mushrooms of the area. The collection now includes over 200 species, including the ever-popular slime mold (*Fuligo septica*—for those who care).

Fungi and mushrooms are actually an early indicator of the health of an environment. In a balanced natural ecosystem, mushrooms appear seasonally, mature, produce spore and then disappear until the next year. As we develop more and more of the native habitat, we destroy the environs in which these delicate fungi grow. While local governments are making some attempts to preserve our county's unique vernal pools, there is yet to be a single notice of a threatened mushroom on the endangered species list. They are so ephemeral that even knowledgeable mycologists may miss their evident life cycle in a given year. Or, if conditions aren't just right, they may decide to skip it for that year.

## Hunting the Wild Mushroom

Mushroom hunting is an art and a science. Even experts who have been searching out these delectable morsels for many years

*Turkey Tail (Trametes versicolor) mushrooms are common on fallen logs. They help break down the hard lignin cells in wood using powerful enzymes. Turkey tail mushrooms have been used for centuries in Asia as medicinal mushrooms.*



PHOTO: PAUL MASCHKA

always err on the side of caution. Paul Maschka, president of the San Diego Mycological Society shared their adage, "There are no old bold mushroom hunters." If you like the idea of finding an exquisite tasting mushroom not found in the grocery store, join the society and train with the experts. While there are published keys to identifying mushrooms, some of the culinary ones are similar to those that are toxic, so take advantage of the experience of others.

Just a few deadly mushrooms grow in San Diego County. The most common one, *Amanita ocreata*, is the most deceptive because of its similarity to commercial mushrooms, particularly the portobello. It really looks like it should be edible instead of fatal. The few others which grow here aren't nearly so common or as attractive.

There are also some choice culinary ones which are native. The lovely oyster mushrooms, *Pleurotus ostreatus*, is a symbiont of riparian willows. While it is distinctive, it also has pretenders. Delicious morels pop up occasionally, sometimes in areas that have been recently spread with a deep moist layer of bark mulch. The small, rather unimpressive looking candy cap (*Lactarius rubidus*) smells faintly of brown sugar or butterscotch. And, California has its own species of the popular porcini, *Boletus dryophilus*, symbiont of the coastal live oak.

In between there are mushrooms that won't kill you, but there is no way on earth you would want to eat them. Nonetheless, they may sport brilliant colors, fascinating shapes, or a wide range of fragrances.

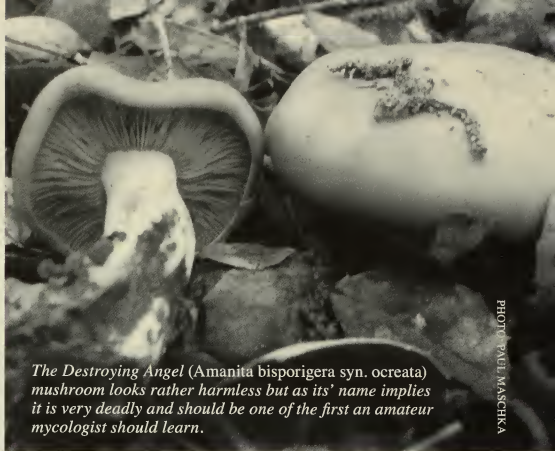
Typically, mushroom spores begin to develop in our rainy season. If you go looking, timing is paramount, as is location. They are most prolific in our native woodlands. Mushroom hunting connects us to our primeval ancestors. What better way to appreciate their knowledge, wisdom and skills in discovering and utilizing this natural food source. Even if you don't find any, it's a great way to get some exercise out in the woods, smell the fresh air and regain gratitude for our beautiful environment.

## In Appreciation of Fungi

Beyond gustatory pleasures, mushrooms and fungi have contributed to our human experience in both basic and complex ways. Were it not for fungi we would have no wine, beer, bread, soy sauce, cheese or tofu.

Penicillin was one of the first pharmacological discoveries of western medicine. The pharmaceutical industry is only beginning to uncover some of the thousands of potent natural compounds produced by fungi and to realize their potential. Research continues on fungal compounds that may create immunity to some kinds of cancer, as example. From ancient times, Asian herbal medicine has included many fungus-based cures in powders, tinctures and other potions.

Mycobioremediation is now being used for habitat restoration. Inoculation with the decomposing microorganisms and fungi has helped to greatly reduce organic debris in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Specific organisms have been found to clean



*The Destroying Angel (Amanita bisporigera syn. ocreata) mushroom looks rather harmless but as its' name implies it is very deadly and should be one of the first an amateur mycologist should learn.*

PHOTO: PAUL MASCHKA

up oil spills more safely and quickly in water and soil. Because of the specificity of the compounds, some are being investigated for their potential as biodegradable insecticides. Who knows what we will discover in the future?

So next time you happen on a mushroom (toxic or not), give it a nod of thanks for helping us out in our lives and gardens.

Cover Photo: *Russula sp.*  
Rachel Cobb

## The Old Oak Tree

They say it takes a native oak tree 500 years to grow and 500 years to die. It is in the latter half of the cycle that native fungus begin to take advantage of the foods produced by the oak.

While the tree is healthy and vigorous, it may be approached by a variety of fungi, but the healthy immune system of the plant defeats these incursions. Immediately, the tree bombards the fungi with chemicals and builds up tissue to compartmentalize and seal off any damage. Unless a young tree has been severely wounded, stressed or otherwise compromised, you will not see evidence of fungal growth and decay.

However, as the tree grows older and begins to weaken, the defenses are not as strong. Initially the mushrooms or fungus will feed off the nutrients created by the tree, reducing the food source available for new growth, but not seriously affecting the structure. It does not kill the tree, but hastens its decline.

Later on in the cycle, the fungus actually morphs into a decomposition mode and colonizes the tree. Once the tree is claimed, the fungus begins to create antibiotics to defend against other decomposing fungi, supporting only its own growth.

Because the fungi need moisture for activation, in dry climates this process of decomposition takes much longer.

Join the San Diego Mycological Society at the Mushroom Fair on Sunday, February 22, 2009 in Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101 from 10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. for everything mushrooms. From demonstrations to lectures, to books and specimens, you're sure to learn something new.

The society meets regularly in Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park I, the first Monday of the month from October through May at 6:30 p.m. For more information check their website at [www.sdmico.org](http://www.sdmico.org).

# Garden Conversations: San Diego Mycological Society

David Grubb, newsletter editor of the San Diego Mycological Society shares his passion for mushrooms with *California Garden* readers

By Alyssa Holderbein

For the past 10 years, David Grubb has been a member of the San Diego Mycological Society. The group meets almost every month in Room 101 of the Casa Del Prado to hear from both global and local mushroom experts. To join the Mycological Society, Grubb recommends visiting their website ([www.sdmico.org](http://www.sdmico.org)) or attending a meeting. The meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. the first Monday of every month except in the summer, when it is too dry for mushrooms.

**California Garden:** How did you first come to grow mushrooms?

**David Grubb:** My first interest in mushrooms came from my mother and grandmother, who both liked to pick and eat wild mushrooms. I learned a little from them as a child. Much later, I became interested in wild foods in general, and learned to recognize a number of wild edible plants, as well as more kinds of mushrooms.

**CG:** What was it that attracted you to mushrooms? What makes them special to you?

**DG:** I was attracted first to the idea of wild food. Later, as I learned more about mushrooms, I was fascinated by the variety of mushrooms that can be found, and the puzzle of trying to identify each different species.

**CG:** Was there one person who influenced your interest and love of mushrooms?

**DG:** The most influential person was author David Arora. I attended a talk he gave about mushrooms, and that talk provided the push that got me much more interested in hunting and identifying mushrooms in the wild.

**CG:** Right now, how many mushroom plants do you have?

**DG:** As noted above, we mostly hunt the wild ones rather than growing our own. I have cultivated a few varieties, but do not have any growing right now.

**CG:** What do people typically do wrong in caring for mushrooms?

**DG:** They must be kept in the right environment, which is difficult in our dry climate. Letting them dry out is probably the main reason that cultivation attempts fail.

**CG:** Are there special challenges to growing mushrooms in the San Diego climate?

**DG:** Yes, because it is so dry. There are only a few species that can be cultivated outdoors, and they are very sensitive to the amount of moisture, especially during the fruiting season. A few



species are easy to grow indoors if you have a place where you can keep the humidity high. Oyster mushrooms are the easiest to grow indoors, especially for a beginner. Oyster mushrooms can be bought in almost any supermarket. Button mushrooms can also be grown indoors but they are more difficult to grow.

**CG:** What is your favorite mushroom?

**DG:** Whatever is on my plate. Chanterelles are my favorites, but are rarely found in our area, except in a few grocery stores.

**CG:** What would you recommend for a beginner?

**DG:** Join the San Diego Mycological Society and go out on our "forays" (That is mushroomer-speak for a mushroom hunt).

**CG:** What books or other sources of information would you recommend for people to learn more about mushrooms?

**DG:** *Mushrooms Demystified* by David Arora. It is the best and most comprehensive guide to the mushrooms of California. There are also many resources on the Internet. A good starting point is [Mycoweb.com](http://Mycoweb.com), they have links to all kinds of information.

**CG:** Besides enjoying mushrooms, what are some of your other interests?

**DG:** Food and drink. I am still interested in other kinds of wild foods, and also in local and organic agriculture. I love a good farmers market, and we are fortunate to have so many in our area. I am also active in the Sierra Club and some other environmental organizations, helping to preserve the local wild lands and local agriculture.





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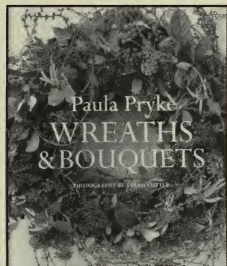
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# Reviews

All of the books reviewed in *California Garden* are part of the San Diego Floral Association Library collection (located in Room 105, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA). Come, browse—and if you're a SDFA member—check them out!



## ***Wreaths and Bouquets***

By Paula Pryke  
Rizzoli Publishing  
\$35 (hardcover); 160 pages

My personal library contains nine books on wreath design but now I have discovered a new one with more new ideas than I thought possible. Paula Pryke, a celebrated British florist, presents 160 pages of creative skill and knowledge focusing her designs on bouquets and wreaths.

Wreaths in circles of fresh and dried plant material are symbols of hospitality and eternity which can be enjoyed year round (not just at the holidays). Bouquets, from the hand-tied to a contemporary vase arrangement, to extravagant centerpieces, bridal designs and napkin decoration are presented for all seasons and occasions.

The book is organized by seasons with beautiful photos, flower choice suggestions and step-by-step instructions in a recipe style for each entry. There is a definite emphasis on the use of fresh flowers. In addition to the major holidays the reader finds new ideas for christenings, birthdays, weddings and special party décor. Note the hanging candelabra for December.

Pryke encourages us to think of unusual materials such as dried mushrooms, orange rinds, gourds and nuts in autumn wreaths. Imagine a spring wreath of eggs, white calla lilies and white ranunculus for Easter. The table wreath incorporating small terra cotta pots of succulents with spring bulbs would welcome spring to your patio. A variety of framing ideas are found throughout the volume.

Another bouquet concept Pryke presents is a ring design using a container or creating one from nature like a basket of pussy willows with tulips in the center. A breath of spring will come to your table in a glass bowl of willow stems threaded with ranunculus and tulips. The rings may also make effective use of candles and mirrors.

A variety of napkin bouquets give us ideas to brighten and beautify a dinner table. Ideas for wrapping gift bouquets can make our gifts to others more personal. Another helpful feature of the book is the flower guide provided at the end. Also, don't miss the brief but fascinating story of the evolution of the tulip. Come and take a peek at this unique edition on floral design in the Floral library. —Kay Harry

## ***Time Saving Gardener: Tips and Essential Tasks, Season by Season***

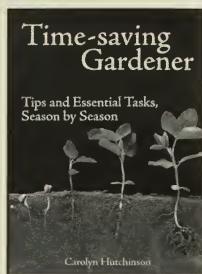
Carolyn Hutchinson  
Firefly Books Ltd.  
\$29 (paperback); 144 pages

Wondering how to propagate pond plants? Or how to deal with suckers? How about planting a clematis through a tree? Just about anything the novice or experienced gardener might want to know about plant care is covered in word and illustration in this highly organized book. Arranged by seasons, with symbols indicating relative importance, there are solutions to each and every garden situation. Lest it all seem like too much to take in at one time, the author begins with a four-page overview of general tasks for beds, containers, kitchen gardens and lawns, as well as propagation and pest treatments. These are the author's main subject categories as she then goes into detail for each specific season.

Planting advice in early spring is described and illustrated in a series of realistic drawings showing exactly how to dig the hole, separate the plant roots and cover it in. Each task description is accompanied by pertinent tips, and a per plant time estimate. (For example: five minutes for a hardy perennial, 18-20 minutes for a shrub or climber!) Feeding and mulching, various pruning and propagating methods, even patio cleaning are some of the spring garden jobs that are covered in careful detail. As the book progresses through the seasons, some tasks are updated as needs change, as in the care of container plants, general plant feeding and summer drought care for lawns. Each task is covered on a single page, so the information is concise, compact and easy to follow. The index at the back of the book makes it all instantly accessible.

Although much of the winter section may not seem entirely relevant in our area, there are still answers to just about any question a local gardener might have and the last section on maintaining a healthy garden is full of good ideas. A short directory of easy care plants completes the book.

—Marge Howard-Jones

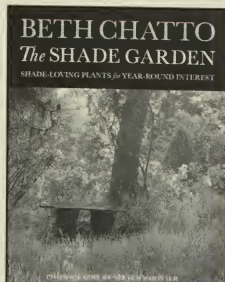


## The Shade Garden: Shade-Loving Plants for Year-Round Interest

By Beth Chatto  
Cassell Illustrated  
\$20 (paperback); 224

What a feast for gardeners! Every page of this complete book on shade plants is filled with beautiful descriptions so accurate you see the plants in your mind before seeing the actual photographs. If you have vast amounts of space, plenty of warm (but not hot) sunshine and an average rainfall of 19 inches, this book is a must. If your gardening site falls short of these requirements this is still an excellent reference book as well as being quite lovely to look at. Readers will likely know more about shade gardens after reading than before they started.

—Joanne Dossett



## Trees of the California Landscape

By Charles R. Hatch  
University of California Press  
\$60 (hardcover); 542 pages

*Trees of the California Landscape* is what I like to call a backpack breaker, in that it is oversized and quite heavy. It is also one of the more complete, attractive and informative books I've seen regarding California trees. A great benefit for the casual gardener and an outstanding reference for the

outdoorsman, this book has ample information for every kind of tree lover, be they dilettantes or connoisseurs.

The book is divided into four main sections, and multiple minor sections. The four main sections are 'The California Landscape,' 'Trees in the Native Landscape,' 'Trees in Urban Landscape Design' and 'Trees of the California Landscape (Compendium).' The section on the California landscape covers everything from topography to climate. 'Trees in the Native Landscape' is a great section for hikers who wish to become more familiar with the trees they see on nature walks, while 'Trees in Urban Landscape Design' is a wonderful reference for the city dweller, and can provide ideas for how to use trees in your own community projects.

The Compendium, however, is where you get your value with this book, as scores of trees are listed in an intuitive and appealing format. From Torrey Pines to Japanese Crape Myrtle; if it grows in California, it should be covered here. Each entry has

both the tree's common and scientific name, multiple pictures of the bloom, lifecycle and bark, as well as a write-up describing the tree's attributes and growing cycle.

The minor sections of the book, while not gaining as much attention, include some interesting topics, such as entries on leaves, flower types and fruit types. All in all, this is an excellent reference book for anyone seriously interested in trees.

—Amy R. Wood

## The Veggie Gardener's Answer Book: Solutions to Every Problem You'll Ever Face, Answers to Every Question You'll Ever Ask

By Barbara W. Ellis  
Storey Publishing  
\$15 (paperback); 432 pages

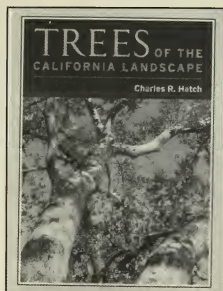
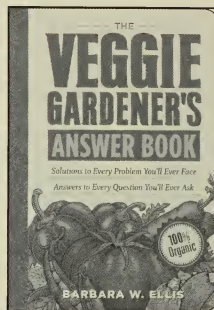
Barbara Ellis is a recipient of the American Horticultural Society's Communication Award, and it's no surprise why. With *The Veggie Gardener's Answer Book*, she has put together an engaging and informative book that any vegetable grower could learn from.

The book is broken into two sections, and topics are mostly covered in a question and answer format. The first section covers creation and maintenance of a veggie garden, addressing issues such as composting and pest control. The second section goes crop-by-crop, covering everything from artichokes to tomatoes.

The book is not targeted to growing in Southern California—indeed, there are questions about South Carolina and Pennsylvania in the book—however, most of the information will work for our area, or can be adapted to work with a few simple tweaks. (Just be aware that tips regarding cold weather concerns and rainfall may not apply to our warmer, arid region.)

One thing that is especially nice is that the book promises to be 100 percent organic, something that matches up well with many people's gardening sensibilities. I found that I learned a lot from the book, and think others will have a similar experience.

—Elizabeth V. Phillips



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# Choosing Your Turfgrass

Figure out which lawn type is best for you with this primer

By Amy R. Wood

**W**e all have high expectations for our lawns. We want them to be green year-round, require little water or fussy maintenance and feel like soft, shaggy carpets when we walk on them barefoot. Whether this image comes from watching too many English films set in gloriously manicured gardens, or idealized childhood memories of summers spent on grass, the idea of an immaculate, emerald green lawn is almost as American as apple pie.

But how many of us can achieve a lawn to rival a Torrey Pines fairway? The reality—we can't. What many of us seem to forget as we stare at our patchy lawn, bewildered by its un-movie like appearance, is that turfgrass is, after all, a plant, and as such, needs to be understood by its well-intentioned owner.

Part of the problem is that we tend to grow the wrong lawn. According to Urban Horticulture Advisor for UC Cooperative Extension, Vincent Lazaneo, "The world of turfgrass is what people feel they can manage. Everyone wants a better look than they're willing to maintain." It is why so many of us get stuck watering more than we think we should, and mowing more than we'd like.

There is no perfect turfgrass. Some turfgrasses are better for certain things, and others are more likely to succeed for more people than not, but there is no one, perfect turf that you absolutely must plant over another. It's best to figure out what fits your family and your home. Buying a turfgrass that fits your needs, your expectations and your willingness to work is key, and will likely result in higher satisfaction with your lawn. So which is best for you?

## Aesthetic vs. Athletic

Start by asking yourself, "What do I need from my lawn?" Is it mostly decorative, or is it a place for your kids, grandkids or pets to romp and roll on? Are you going to plant it in full-sun, or will it be in partial shade? Knowing how you'll use the space will help you decide what you want. For instance, if you desire a looker-lawn, green but not a play area, you might go with something like buffalograss, or eschew turf altogether for a water-saving ground cover like thyme. If you're looking for something that can stand up to a stampeding herd, or just a spirited game of fetch with your dogs, you're going to need something durable enough to handling high traffic, like bermudagrass or zoysia.

## Workload and Water Bill

Another question you need to ask is how much time do you want to devote to the upkeep of this green spot of yard, and how much water are you willing to use to accomplish this.

According to a recent newsletter sent out by State Senator Kehoe, mandatory water conservation measures are on the horizon for San Diego County in 2009. (Indeed, in Long Beach,

residents are already prohibited from watering more than three times a week during peak hours: -7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.) San Diego Water Authority has reported coming up a little shy with their 20 Gallon Challenge, ([www.20gallonchallenge.com](http://www.20gallonchallenge.com)) initiative, and forecasters are predicting another low-rainfall winter.

To this end, if water savings is your primary concern, you'll need to make some hard decisions. Lawns get a bad rap these days, blamed as the ultimate landscaping water hogs, but more often than not this bad reputation comes from owners doing such things as using regionally-inappropriate turfgrass, not maintaining their yards properly with efficient irrigation systems and/or devoting too much of their yards to supporting turfgrass. If you plant a drought-tolerant turfgrass, set up your sprinkler system to uniformly, efficiently and intelligently water—adapting to changes in precipitation, for example. And, if you scale back your lawn, replacing part of it with drought-tolerant borders or a hardscaped patio, you can enjoy your patch of green with relatively little guilt.

If you want an idea about how much water you'll be using or you need help in determining the right amount of water to use, you can check out the San Diego County Water Authority's Landscape Calculator (<http://apps.sandiego.gov/landcalc/>).

Once the water question is settled, you'll need to consider how many Saturdays you want to spend mowing, rather than enjoying, your lawn. Certain species of turfgrass perform best when kept short. Knowing whether your selection falls into that category will save you some mower-related backaches. For turfgrass that can flourish by standing tall, consider mowing high. In addition to saving you some yardwork, mowing high can improve the health of your lawn by allowing it to better compete against weeds. Scalping your lawn, or mowing it too short, will only cause problems such as bald spots, increased weeds, insect infestation and more.

Another thing to consider is the environmental impact of your mowing. The newer gas mowers, while greatly improved over previous models, still put out harmful exhaust. You may want to consider investing in an electric mower, or even better, the old-fashioned reel or push mower. Also, keep in mind that if you're hiring others to mow your lawn for you, you may have to deal with weed or invasive turf problems from shared mowers transporting seeds and spores, as well as unknowledgeable gardeners mowing your selection at the wrong height.

## Cool vs. Warm

Cool season grasses grow in spring and fall, bloom and set seed in late spring/summer, become dormant in the summer and then bounce back to green in the fall, staying green through winter. Warm season grasses do most of their growing in the summer, bloom and set seed in fall and become dormant in the

winter. Knowing the difference between the two types is important, because while your heart might desire a good ol' Kentucky bluegrass, cool season grasses are not the best fit for sunny San Diego. If you want to save water, it is almost best to eliminate cool season grasses like ryegrass and bluegrass from consideration right off the bat. This will save you both water and time. Warm season grasses that do well in San Diego County include: bermudagrass, zoysia, St. Augustine, paspalum and buffalograss. According to Lazaneo, a warm season grass like Bermuda can survive on half a cool season lawn's water allotment. This will show up as a welcome savings on your water bill.



Use an environmentally friendly reel mower.

## Maintenance

Selecting the right turf is one thing, but even the best plant will suffer if you don't care for it properly. It is important to realize that every plant needs TLC, and your lawn is no different. Simply mowing it every other week or month and turning on the sprinklers from time to time is not enough.

One of the most common misconceptions is that if you plant the 'right' turf and set up some sprinklers, you're home free. Wrong. According to David Shaw, Landscape and Turfgrass Farm Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension, San Diego County, adherence to a system of landscape-wide water conservation is what brings the water-saving benefits and a healthier lawn.

Make a commitment to water conservation and set up modern sprinkler systems, like evapotranspiration (ET) controllers that optimize water dispersal. These systems measure the rate of water at which is being drawn away out of the leaves by the level of heat and relative humidity then only turn on sprinklers when water is needed. He recommends contracting an expert to set the devices up, as they'll need to incorporate precipitation rates, etc. This not only saves water, but makes sure your lawn is being watered evenly, avoiding dead spots from under or over-watering.

Set up your system by hydrozoning, that is, having plants with the same irrigation needs on the same system cycle. Your turf will be on one system cycle while your drought tolerant landscape with lower water needs will be on separate line and controller. Check and adjust the heads as needed for proper and even water distribution. Do not over-irrigate—for instance, over-water a brown spot hoping to fix the problem. You'll just make things worse by flooding healthy areas. Fine-tune systems so that turf is evenly watered. For example, if a sprinkler head breaks, replace it with the same brand and model, so it doesn't upset the uniformity of your watering system.

Adjust your watering schedule to deliver the right amount of water at proper intervals to save both water and money.

And, practice deficit irrigation, which means applying less water, or watering less frequently, to save water without hurting the aesthetic appearance of the lawn. Following these conservation steps will allow for a healthy lawn that doesn't take more of its fair share of water.

## Different Turf Types

So which warm season grass works best for you? All have their own personalities, pros and cons.

### **Buffalograss** (*Buchloe dactyloides*):

Winning the award for 'Most Trendy Turf Suggestion, 2008,' buffalograss is a prairie grass that has been rediscovered by 'green' magazines and websites as the ultimate residential turfgrass for those looking for no-mow (four times or less a year), low-water lawns with low-to-moderate foot traffic. It is a water-saver, requiring purposeful watering only during dry months; as a prairie grass, it is used to summer rainfall.

According to Shaw, "While new cultivars have less winter dormancy and look good... buffalograss is not very wear-tolerant compared to bermuda." It won't

hold up to daily dog abuse and can't be described as a 'play area.' If you're going for a uniform lawn look with buffalograss, mow to two and a half inches, though know that if you don't mind letting the grass go a little, you can get away with three to four inches of growth.

**Zoysia** (*Zoysia spp.*): Also known as Korean grass or Japanese grass, zoysia is heat-tolerant and drought-tolerant, which means it does well with little watering in all parts of Southern California (including inland areas). It is also wear-resistant, which means you can run, jump and tumble on this grass and not do too much damage. And even if you did, it should bounce right back as it also has a propensity to recover from severe injury.

Zoysia is moderate to low maintenance. It should be mowed short—between three-fourths and one and one-half inch—but the turf grows so slowly you won't be mowing every other Saturday. Slow growth, incidentally, is why some people avoid growing zoysia, as it takes quite a bit of time for it to grow from plugs to mature lawn. Also, while it has a moderate to fine feel, its appearance is a little clumpy, depending on what stage of growth it's in. It is also invasive. David Shaw recommends zoysia grass varieties 'De Anza' or 'Victoria.'

**Bermuda** (*Cynodon dactylon*): In some online landscaping and wildlife communities, 'Bermuda' is a dirty word; yet for our experts, it is one of the best options for those looking for a rough and tumble lawn that can handle kids, dogs and more. True, it is invasive, but if well maintained, it can feel like cushy carpet underneath bare feet. Bermuda is drought tolerant and both hybrid and common varieties can recover well from severe injury. This turf option likes to be kept short, at one-half inch to one inch, so you'll be mowing more than if you selected another option. Your best bet for best all-around performance, according to Shaw, are hybrid bermudagrass cultivars.

**Paspalum** (*Paspalum spp.*): Also known as Bahaigrass, paspalum is a great option for Southern California residents. After bermudagrass, it is one of the most highly recommended species



of turfgrass—"Seashore" paspalum cultivars being mentioned most. Paspalum has a high salinity tolerance, which means it is a good option for those living on the coast, or for those who plan on watering—at least partially—with gray water. It has limited winter dormancy, so it will look nice nearly year-round. A negative to consider is that it is very dense, similar to a hybrid bermudagrass, so if your ground is uneven, or you don't mow it properly, it is prone to scalping. It should be mowed between two to three inches. Also, it has a coarse texture, so it may not elicit carpet-like sensations.

**St. Augustine** (*Stenotaphrum secundatum*): This turf is the liguine of lawn grass, with wide, thick blades. It is shade-tolerant, which is great for those with a backyard dominated by a tree, but according to Lazaneo, "thatch is a problem." One expert suggested mixing with another turfgrass like seashore paspalum for best overall results. You'll want to mow this coarse grass between one-and-one-half inch to three inches.

**Synthetic Turf** (*Graminea plasticum*): An unconventional choice, but one gaining in popularity as more people ditch their natural lawn altogether for the convenience of synthetic, or artificial, grass. As San Diego Chargers' Running Back LaDainian Tomlinson says in the commercials, "it's no water, no maintenance and no worries." Well, almost no worries. While maintenance is minimal compared to natural grass, the surface can get very hot in direct sun—150 degrees Fahrenheit, hot. In fact, pro stadiums that have FieldTurf—one of the more popular, life-like brands ([easyturf.com](http://easyturf.com))—have to install sprinklers to help cool down the surface so football players don't leave the game with toasted tootsies. Another concern is bacteria build up, and in areas like sports complexes with lots of kids, staph could be a problem. (Washes are available to help keep synthetic turf free from biological problems.) While many modern artificial turfs are amazingly life-like, they can still look fake because they look too perfect. It is also very expensive to install, at \$7-10 per square foot, versus 70 cents per square foot of natural turfgrass.

## Best Turf for You

So what is the best turf for you? Research before you make your decision. Check with local area nurseries and landscape designers. Explain how you plan to use the turf, and discuss any special conditions you may have, such as shade trees. Keep an open mind. Don't be afraid to go with something different from the norm, and feel free to mix species in your outdoor space if that make sense for you. Do what's right for your situation. You might be surprised by what you end up with, and how well it fits in with your family's needs.

## Best of the Best

Three great choices in three important categories

DROUGHT-TOLERANT	LOW-MAINTENANCE	HIGH-TRAFFIC
Buffalograss	Buffalograss	Bermudagrass
Zoysia	Zoysia	Zoysia
Bermudagrass	Fescue mix	Paspalum

## Cool Season Exception?

One cool season turfgrass frequently recommended for Southern California residents, is fescue (*Festuca spp.*). While fescue is technically better suited to cooler climes, it is also remarkably drought-tolerant when compared to its cool season cousin ryegrass, and holds up in all but extremely high heat.

When we interviewed Shellene Mueller, a landscape designer who has won several awards from the San Diego Water Authority for low-water gardens, she recommended a fescue mix for active families. Enviro-Turf, by Bluestem Nursery, Canada ([www.bluestem.ca](http://www.bluestem.ca)) is a mix of Sheep fescue, chewing fescue, creeping red fescue and perennial ryegrass. Red fescue is fast growing from seed, and can establish quickly as the slower ryegrass fills in.

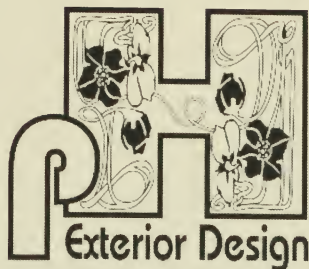
Mueller says, "It requires less watering every 7-10 days, requires no fertilizing, has a slower growth rate which decreases the amount of mowing." (Mueller's mix should be mowed between two and a half and three inches.) She adds that it is in her yard and says, "We mow our lawn about four or five times a YEAR!"

One of the most attractive features is its color and feel. "This is an absolutely beautiful lawn," she says. "The grass blades are fine and so may need a bit more water."

**Pros:** Fescue provides a beautiful, carpet-like green lawn that stays green all year. In its dormancy in hot summer months, it shifts from deep dark green to a pale green. It is shade-tolerant and drought-tolerant.

**Cons:** It is subject to invasion by other, more opportunistic grasses like bermudagrass, which can mean a lot of maintenance in trying to keep your lawn pure. It also takes more water than warm season species.





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**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

**Jan. 12: Orchid Collecting in Venezuela**

Horticulturist Fred Clarke shares his adventures in the habitat of *Cattleya mossiae*, once the most popular corsage for Mother's Day, and now rarely seen. Plus, hear about how he bred the now-famous black orchid! Members free, non-members \$5.

**Feb. 9: Big Ideas for Water-Thrifty, Fire-Safe Landscapes**

Dave Egbert, host of national TV series, *The Coastal Gardener*, will tell us how to use perennials, roses, outdoor living spaces, and edible landscaping to create a gorgeous and defensible space around your home. Members free, non-members \$5.

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# Now is the time

Timely tips to  
keep your plants  
happy throughout  
January and February

## African Violets

**Barbara Conrad, Carlsbad African Violet Society**

- Brush leaves with a soft brush to remove dust.
- Wash plants if needed. Put tin foil under lower leaves and around the pot. Lean the plant under warm water at sink. Gently rub or brush leaves with fingers. Dry all droplets of water. Use a paper towel or soft Q-tip to gently dry the centers.

## Begonias

**Doris Smith, Alfred D. Robinson Begonia Society**

- Remove all dead leaves and debris from pots or beds.
- Watch for pests and spray for mildew.
- Go for the tuberous types in February and begin pruning the others.
- Trim back old growth. Start new canes from the cuttings.
- Repot; up one size is the rule.
- Water less, but do not allow your plants to dry out.

## Bonsai

**Kora Dalager, San Diego Bonsai Club**

- Wire your conifer and evergreen trees
- Graft conifers, deciduous and evergreen trees.
- Adjust watering to winter weather conditions.
- Apply lime sulphur or other dormant spray. Protect the soil and pots from spray.
- Prune fruit bearing bonsai.
- Watch for aphids and other sucking insects and spray accordingly.
- Search nurseries for deciduous stock.
- Prepare your soil mix for repotting.
- Repot, starting in February.

## Bromeliad

**Mary Siemers, Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park**

- Water less often during cold weather.
- Collect rainwater for future use.
- Continue to watch out for freezing temperatures. When dips in temperature occur, cover plants with an old sheet or similar material. (Do not use plastic covering.) You may want to bring some of your more sensitive plants indoors. Do not place plants in front of heating vents.
- Keep center cup filled with fresh water.

## Cacti and Succulents

**Joyce Buckner, The Plant Man Nursery in Old Town**

- Keep succulents drier than usual during cold weather. Water expands when it freezes and damages succulent leaves.
- Water sparingly during the early part of a sunny day after nighttime temperatures go below 50 degrees Fahrenheit. Stop watering when temperatures drop below 40 degrees F.
- Be sure to water hanging plants and early spring growing succulents (Christmas cactus, dudleya, aeonium, sedums and senecios) especially during Santa Ana conditions.
- Wait until spring to fertilize, even the winter growers.
- Assess your garden's drainage. Winter dormant and water sensitive succulents need to be kept away from rain gutters and low spots. Check containers and saucers for proper drainage also.
- Use some form of snail and slug control around young plants after each rainstorm, if needed.



## Camellias

**Sharon Lee, San Diego Camellia Society**

- Check nurseries for camellias in bloom. January through March are the prime bloom months. A few favorites are: 'Silver Waves', very large pure white with a sunburst of stamens; 'Katie' a very large salmon-rose semi-double; 'Kramer's Supreme', fragrant, turkey-red, full peony form; 'Carter's Sunburst', very large loose peony forms, cerise stripes and flecks on soft pink petals; and 'C.M. Hovey' syn. 'Colonel Firey' medium sized, brilliant red, formal double.
- Transplant, pot, re-pot or bare-root and re-pot now since camellias are still in their dormant season (October through March). When planting, whether in the soil or in a pot, plant one inch higher than soil level. Camellias don't like their crowns covered. Also, remember some camellias like shady

- spots and some like sun. Check your nursery tag or with nursery personnel.
- Continue to remove all but the largest bud where bud clusters exist. Disbudding provides larger but fewer blooms.
- Prune out branches that might prevent buds from opening.
- Pick up blooms that fall to the ground to prevent petal blight.
- Fertilize in January with 2-10-10 for larger buds. Note that fertilizing this late in the season may produce only marginal results. Add an iron supplement to grow dark green leaves and gypsum to help prevent leaf tip burn.
- Maintain a regular watering regimen. Don't let a plant dry out, but if it rains heavily cut back on supplemental watering. Be sure and monitor plants under eaves and canopies where the rain doesn't always reach.

## Dahlias

### Dave Tooley, San Diego Dahlia Society

- Dig up any tubers left in the ground. By early January, the tops of any remaining plants should be completely withered; cut the tops down to just above the ground.
- Store tubers, without dividing, in a cool place in vermiculite or sand. Leave on soil that clings from their removal from the ground.
- Inspect all tubers stored earlier for any sign of shriveling. If a tuber looks dry add a little moisture. Throw away rotting tubers; those that appear watery or are mushy to the touch.
- Prepare plantings beds in February by turning the soil, adding humus and fumigating. You will want to dig in humus and add equal parts of superphosphate and sulfate of potash. Turn the mixture over well, and add fertilizer two or three weeks before planting.
- Sprout some selected roots in February, as these sprouts make good cuttings. If having trouble, apply bottom heat to encourage sprouting.

## Ferns

### Bob Halley, San Diego Fern Society

- Water gently. Do not over water.
- Trim off dead fronds but not green ones. Most small leaf maidenhairs can be cut back completely.
- Fertilize Platyceriums (Staghorns) with high nitrogen fertilizer. They are starting to grow. Do not use slow release pellets.
- Remove and remount Platycerium pups.
- Sow spores.

## Fruit Trees and Vines

### Vincent Lazaneo, Urban Horticulture Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension

- Finish pruning dormant deciduous trees and vines before leaf buds start to grow.
- Prune evergreens just before or when new growth begins.
- Spray dormant deciduous trees and vines with horticultural oil before buds begin to open to control overwintering insect pests.

- Spray dormant peach and nectarine trees with a fungicide such as lime sulfur (calcium polysulfide) before buds begin to open to control peach leaf curl.
- Learn more about pest management at [www.ipm.ucdavis.edu](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu).
- Plant dormant bare root trees and vines.
- Paint the trunks with whitewash to protect the bark from sunburn injury (use equal parts water and white interior flat latex paint).
- Provide frost protection for young citrus and other subtropical fruit trees.
- Feed fruit trees with a nitrogen fertilizer when new growth begins.

## Herbs

### John Noble, Coastal Sage Gardening

- Make a cup of mint tea fresh from the garden. If you don't have any in the garden, plant some.
- Fertilize your herb garden. Use compost, earthworm castings, kelp, manure and peat moss. Add gypsum if you have a clay soil.
- Plant aloe, parsley, dill, borage, calendula, rosemary and sage. Also plant native herbs such as white sage, black sage, California poppy and yerba santa.
- Prune and lace your deciduous herbal shrubs and trees. These include rose, chaste tree, ginkgo, lemon verbena and elderberry.

## Irises

### Leon Vogel, San Diego/Imperial Counties Iris Society

- Fertilize again for the spring burst of blooms. Use a low nitrogen mix
- Check for aphids that hide all winter at the base of leaves. Best to use a systemic insect spray. Spray for diseases with a spray such as Daconil—gets them all.
- Discard all dead leaves and weeds. Put them in your dumpster, not the compost pile.
- Check to see if all labels are by the proper clumps. Use weather-proof marking pens on labels.
- Keep everything watered if we have a dry winter.
- Foliar feed for bigger and brighter colored blooms.

## Native Plants

### John Noble, Coastal Sage Gardening

- Plant wildflower seeds, like California bluebells, Chinese houses, farewell to spring, mountain garland, goldfields and California poppy
- Plant your choice of California native plants. Dig a hole and fill with water several times, amend soil slightly and plant the root ball so that it is an inch or two higher than the existing soil level. Cover with soil to create a little mound. Water again with a spray.
- Hose down your native garden once a week until the rainy season kicks in.



## Orchids

### Christopher Croom, San Diego County Orchid Society

- Give your deciduous and cool-growing dendrobiums and noble hybrids a dry winter rest through January.
- Look for spikes on winter-blooming cattleyas (*C. labiata*, etc.) in January.
- Train developing spikes on phalaenopsis, especially those you left outside until nighttime temperatures dropped top 55 degrees Fahrenheit to initiate reblooming.
- Watch for rotting plants and rotting mixes. Repot plants when any signs of rot occur and dust any affected areas of the plant with sulfur.
- Increase water if plants show signs of faster growth in February.
- Protect outdoor plants from nighttime moisture. Water before noon.

## Pelargoniums

### Jim Zemcik, San Diego Geranium Society

- Water on a regular schedule. Allow excess water to drain away. Keep foliage as dry as possible. Keep potted plants out of prolonged rain.
- Continue feeding with a good commercial fertilizer. Use at one-third to one-half of the label's recommended strength. Apply at two-week intervals.
- Continue a pest control and disease prevention program.
- Top-pinch any plants that were not previously cut back. When the stems start to leaf out, cut them back to one-half the stem length.
- Make cuttings from the prunings. Try rooting in straight perlite. Shelter the cuttings from extreme weather; place them in a warm location to produce roots more rapidly.
- Protect plants from freezing.
- Rotate plants to keep them well shaped.

## Plumerias

### Frank Zotter, Southern California Plumeria Society

- Protect plumeria from any frost; this is important because it only takes one night to ruin a plant. In a frost prone area move the plants inside or to a garage.
- Move plants next to a building or under the patio to protect from excess rain.
- Top-off plants with as much mulch as possible as protection from cold and rain.
- Do not fertilize and sparingly water those plants that still have leaves if drought conditions continue.

## Roses

### Al Heck, San Diego Rose Society

- Maintain a complete calendar of procedures to follow in preparing maintaining and feeding your roses.
- Strip any foliage remaining on your bushes. Clean up the beds. If you used a dormant spray in late December, you should repeat, weather permitting. Many problems can be controlled by hosing your roses off early in the morning.
- Plant new bushes in holes you prepared earlier. When planting a new rose as a replacement supplement the planting mix with soil taken from another area of the garden, add superphosphate at the bottom of the hole.
- Prune hybrid teas mid-January through Valentine's Day.
- Feed new plants with liquid fertilizer when bushes have a full set of leaves.
- Apply rose food to established bushes in early February. A cup of alfalfa meal or pellets worked into the drip basin will help get your bushes off to a good start. For continuous blooms use frequent small feedings.
- Fill water basins at least twice a week.
- Knock aphids off new growth with a strong stream of water from the hose.
- Wash off foliage in the early morning or spray weekly with a fungicide to control mildew.
- Finger prune when multiple buds break on the canes, leave only the strongest to promote strong growth.
- Maintain a clear area around your bushes to discourage rot fungus. Pick off infected leaves and dispose of in closed containers.
- Prune hybrid teas, shrubs and climbers by January 31.

## Vegetables

### Vincent Lazaneo, Urban Horticulture Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension

- Remove and compost warm-season vegetables to prevent pests and diseases from over-wintering on them.
- Continue planting cool-season vegetables that will not be subject to frost injury.
- Plant seeds of short-day onions ('Grano', 'Granex' or 'Crystal Wax'), and garlic cloves in November for bulbs next summer.
- Plant dormant crowns of artichoke, asparagus and rhubarb. Avoid crown rot of rhubarb, plant crowns in containers filled with porous potting soil and transplant into a garden where drainage is good after several leaves have developed.
- Learn more about vegetable gardening at <http://vric.ucdavis.edu>.



# California Garden Restrospective

## Looking back at *California Garden*: 1909-1928

By Thea Gurns and Lucy Warren



In 1909, the grand founders of the San Diego Floral Association agreed on a need for a magazine selling the idea of “A Garden Spot In A Summer Land,” and in July 1909 *California Garden* (named by Lucien A. Blochman, a director of the Panama Pacific Exposition) launched into the world.

The forward of that first issue proclaimed, “California Garden makes its bow to the good folks of San Diego... [ ] ... it is the official organ of the San Diego Floral Association, the objects of which are all towards a more beautiful city, a city of gardens—taking advantage of its wonderful climate, conditions, and realizing some part of its possibilities floriculturally.” They agreed that San Diego, with its unique, dry climate needed its own planting instruction manual, and that they were going to provide it. The editors promised to answer questions “for the many newcomers, and almost as numerous old residents, who just want to know.”

The first editor was A.D. Robinson. He held the position for the first ten years, and then intermittently for an additional seven. He gave *California Garden* an identifiable voice—confidential, frank, sometimes just short of cranky. He wrote frequently for the magazine, including a series of articles for *California Garden* on lath house location and construction, based on his own experience with the structures. (Balboa Park’s Botanical Building is his legacy to us.)

Kate O. Sessions was a notable early contributor. Horticulturist supreme, and the ‘Mother of Balboa Park,’ she used her articles to advocate for plants that she believed would thrive in San Diego. In an article for the first issue of the *California Garden*, Sessions introduced a newly-discovered form of the native matilija poppy (*Romneya coulteri*) as suitable for garden cultivation, “every

Southern California garden should have this plant.” Another notable contributor was Guy Fleming, who used *California Garden* to promote sign posting, name plate identification, trail-building contests, and dry brush cleanups. His efforts were rewarded when Torrey Pines City Park was included in the State Park system.

*California Garden* from its beginning published on a monthly schedule with regular columns and reports on meetings, excursions and upcoming educational opportunities. Photographs—a Robinson hobby—showed up early in the publication, augmented by drawings and graphics. Each issue advised on expeditious methods for growing ornamentals and vegetables. Nurseryman Ernest Benard, whose Parisian brother supplied him with roses, wrote a monthly column on that flower’s cultivation. Urban planning was covered by James Chapman, Secretary of the San Diego Civic Improvement Association. Architect Richard Requa contributed a two-part essay in August and September 1910 on “The Importance of the Garden.”

In that slower, more refined time, San Diego Floral Association members entertained in the garden at night under lantern light, traveled by carriage, ferry and trolley for picnics and teas, attended flower shows featuring a parade of children pulling flower-decorated wagons. Poetry recitations, prose readings, songs, dances by young ballerinas amused and pleased their watchers. *California Garden* reported it all

The turn of the twentieth century found San Diego an arid terrain of cactus and sagebrush. From 1909 onward, through exposition, financial crisis, the Navy fleet’s visit, through influenza epidemic, drought and war, the pioneer editors and writers of the Floral Association’s magazine inspired their fellow San Diegans to transform the region into the near paradise we inhabit today.

TIMELINE

**1912:** Woodrow Wilson becomes president; Titanic sinks; San Diego’s Spruce Street suspension bridge opens

**1915:** Einstein’s Theory of Relativity unveiled; San Diego hosts the Panama Pacific Exposition

**1916:** San Diego Zoo opens

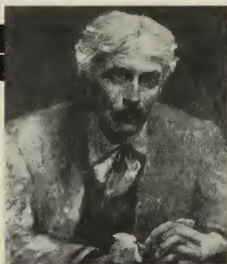
**1920:** Prohibition begins

**1927:** First “talkie” motion picture, *The Jazz Singer*, debuts; San Diego’s Fine Arts Gallery opens



*California Garden* in its early years was a platform of advocacy. In a March 1913 article titled, "Plea for Our Native Growths," A.D. Robinson asked his readers to "see beauty and desirability in a plot that was covered with wild growth and had natural canyons and hillocks." He noted ten years previous, Ocean Beach and Point Loma had enjoyed such natural assets. "In less than ten years," he prophesized, "many a resident in the suburbs of San Diego will sign for the self-supporting, sweet-smelling wild shrubbery that has been ruthlessly blotted out."

This plea followed on the heels of other cries, including the October 1910 article, "Ernest Plea for the Canyon," which asked for recognition of the value of our canyons and calling for a stop to their disfiguring use for trash disposal. The writer "L.P.C." averred, "One of the greatest natural beauties that our city possesses is her canyons. Through the shortsightedness of our people ... [.] the canyons are rapidly being filled and it seems nothing short of vandalism to so ruthlessly destroy anything so exalted." Both Robinson and L.P.C. recognized that they could use the pages of the magazine to help raise awareness for a cause that he thought needed immediate attention.



California Garden's first editor, A.D. Robinson.

In one hundred years the principal mission and focus of *California Garden* has not changed. It is still the publication advocates for worthwhile causes and promotes individuals and groups dedicated to beautifying and protecting San Diego's natural resources while it enables regional gardeners to optimize the potential of our exceptional Mediterranean climate in their own gardens.

One hundred years ago few other organizations had the interest and capability to advocate for our plants and natural environment with projects such as planting trees in parks, cleaning up the back country and including climate adapted native plants in the garden. Insightful leaders of the San Diego Floral Association used *California Garden* to inform and encourage citizenry to protect and care for their natural assets.

Since then special interests groups have broken off and formed new organizations as diverse as the California Native Plant Society to I Love A Clean San Diego.

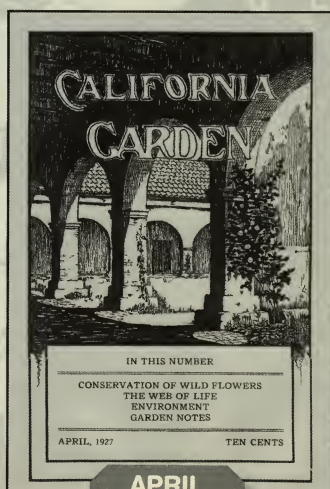
*California Garden* continues to support and promote its affiliate and offshoot organizations, championing their interests as it continues to educate regional gardeners.



OCTOBER  
1910



MARCH  
1915



APRIL  
1927



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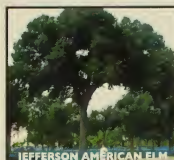
- Pennsylvania Gold Medal Plant Award 1998
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# SDFA Calendar

A listing of the best gardening-related activities in the county for January and February 2009

## January Events

### JANUARY 3

#### BALBOA PARK'S ANNUAL PUBLIC ROSE PRUNING DEMONSTRATION

The public is invited to a free, hands-on rose pruning demonstration, as SDRS volunteers will provide instruction on the proper pruning techniques for roses. Bring your gloves and pruners.

When: 9:15 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Where: Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden, 2525 Park Boulevard, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: Roger English, 619-582-3794; Crystal Ritchie, 619-235-1114

### JANUARY 5

#### PALOMAR DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA FLORAL DESIGN FORUM

J.R. is back by popular demand with exciting designs.

When: 12:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

Where: Woman's Club, 3320 Monroe Sr., Carlsbad, CA

More information: 760-749-4976, [www.geocities.com/pgdgardencubs](http://www.geocities.com/pgdgardencubs)

### JANUARY 6

#### SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING

The SDCOS is holding two meetings: a general meeting and a novice class for those interested in learning more about orchids. Everyone is welcome!

When: Novice Class 6:30 p.m.; General Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 104 (Novice Class), Room 101 (General Meeting) Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: [www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com)

### JANUARY 7

#### SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB MEETING

Come learn how to grow and use herbs with this lively group.

When: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: 519-579-0222

### JANUARY 9

#### VISTA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

The Vista Garden Club Monthly Meeting begins at noon; program begins about 1:15 p.m.

When: 12:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.

Where: Gloria McClellan Senior Center, 1200 Vale Terrace Dr. Vista, CA

More information: [www.vistagardenclub.org](http://www.vistagardenclub.org)

### JANUARY 10

#### SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY MEETING

Learn about bromeliads at this morning meeting.

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: [www.bsi.org/webpages/san\\_diego.html](http://www.bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html)

#### SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCULENT SOCIETY MEETING

Learn more about these water-saving plants at the SDCSS's monthly meeting.

When: 1:00 p.m.

Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: [www.sdcss.com](http://www.sdcss.com)

### JANUARY 11

#### SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB MEETING

The San Diego Bonsai Club has two monthly offerings: a 9:00 a.m. classes for beginner and novice members, and a 10:30 a.m. meeting and program.

When: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: [www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com](http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com)

### JANUARY 12

#### SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING

Come hear Sunset Valley Orchids' Fred Latke speak on "Orchid Collecting in Venezuela." Program followed by plant forum. Admittance for members is free, non-members \$5.

When: 6:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Where: Surfside room, Del Mar Fairgrounds, Del Mar, CA

More information: 760-295-7089, [www.sdhortsoc.org](http://www.sdhortsoc.org)

### JANUARY 13

#### DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB

Monthly meetings are designed to educate by providing interesting and diversified programs.

When: 12:00 p.m.

Where: Stephen Catholic Church, 31020 Cole Grade Road, Valley Center, CA

More information: [www.dosvallesgardenclub.org](http://www.dosvallesgardenclub.org)

#### SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego Geranium Society Meeting features guest speakers, plant raffles and refreshments; plant cuttings are usually available. Bring a friend, bring a plant for raffle and enjoy!

When: 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: Brenda Archer, 619-447-8243, [www.sdgeranium.org](http://www.sdgeranium.org)

### JANUARY 14

#### SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY MEETING

Come join in and learn about epiphyllums. A special drawing is held among attending members, and all first-time guests are welcomed with a free four-inch potted epi (sign in to be eligible).

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: [www.epiphyllum.com](http://www.epiphyllum.com)

#### BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Learn how to grow organically with the program, "Grow Healthy/Eat Healthy."

When: Hospitality 9:30 a.m., Meeting 10:00 a.m.

Where: Bonita Library Community Room, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita, CA

More information: Darlene Montgomery, 619-267-1585, [dmontg@live.com](mailto:dmontg@live.com)

#### POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Academy Award winner Noel Tribbey, AIFD, returns for this floral design program.

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, San Diego, CA

More information: [www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org)

#### RAMONA GARDEN CLUB

Come join the Ramona Garden Club for refreshments, door prize, plant swapping, plant sales and program.

When: 12:00 p.m.

Where: Ramona Women's Club, 524 Main Street, Ramona, CA

More information: [www.ramonagardenclub.com](http://www.ramonagardenclub.com)

### JANUARY 15

#### BERNARDO GARDENERS GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Come hear Dr. David Kellum, Entomologist for the County of San Diego, speak about bees, butterflies, beneficials and controlling exotic invasive insects.

When: 1:30 p.m.

Where: Rancho Bernardo Library Community Room, 17110 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo, San Diego, CA

More information: [www.bernardogardeners.org](http://www.bernardogardeners.org)

#### CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB

Come join in the fun!

When: 11:45 A.M.

Where: Norman Park Center, Chula Vista, CA

More information: Marilyn Saleny, 619-421-6072

#### SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego Fern Society meeting is an opportunity for people to study ferns together and encourage the joy and use of ferns in gardens, patios and homes. Guests are welcome.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: [www.sdfern.com](http://www.sdfern.com)

### JANUARY 20

#### CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY—SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

Come for camaraderie and more. New members will receive a gift; a sales table is also available.

When: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101 or 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: [www.cnpsd.org](http://www.cnpsd.org)



**JANUARY 20** *continued*  
**LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB MEETING**  
Programs, friends and more.

When: 1:30 p.m.

Where: La Jolla Lutheran Church, 5171 Crystal Drive La Jolla, CA

More Information: Fran Sheinbein, 858-488-5618

**RANCHO SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB MEETING**

Join this group for their monthly meeting.

When: 9:30 a.m.

Where: Contact group for details

More information: Carol Wells, 619-749-8325

**JANUARY 21**

**SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY MEETING**

Meetings are free to the public. January's meeting agenda is a Camellia Grafting Workshop. Learn how to graft a scion on to rootstock.

When: 7:00 p.m. social; 7:30 p.m. speaker and plant raffle

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: President Dean Gurney, 760-942-1919

**JANUARY 22**

**CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS—SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MEETING**

Learn how to select and grow rare fruit in San Diego

When: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.crfgsandiego.org](http://www.crfgsandiego.org)

**VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA MEETING**

Guests are welcome to see Alisa De Jong-Stout's program, "Recognizing the Wisdom of Flowers."

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Torrey Pines Christian Church, 1802 Amalfi St., La Jolla, CA

More information: Ann Craig, 858-454-4117,

[www.villagegardencluboflajolla.com](http://www.villagegardencluboflajolla.com)

**JANUARY 26**

**SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY ROSE MEETING**

Visitors are always welcome to the monthly meetings. Little Rose Show and Exhibition 101. Learn tips to enhance the beauty of your blossoms.

When: 6:00 p.m. mini-rose show; 6:30 p.m. Pot Luck Dinner; 7:30 p.m. program

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdrosesociety.org](http://www.sdrosesociety.org)

**PALOMAR DISTRICT MEETING**

Join this group for Beverly Patterson del Sol's "Floral Design" program.

When: Board Meeting 10:00 a.m.; Regular Meeting 11:15 a.m.

Where: Handlery Hotel & Resort, 950 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA

More Information: Director Jerry Thirloway, 858-755-3284

**JANUARY 27**

**BONITA ORGANIC GARDEN CLUB**

Monthly meetings give you a wealth of information on organic gardening.

When: 6:30 p.m. social; 7:00 p.m. meeting

Where: Bonita Museum, 4355 Bonita Rd, Bonita, CA

More Information: Bernadette Mingus, 619-200-5073, [bernadette mingus@yahoo.com](mailto:bernadette mingus@yahoo.com)

**SAN DIEGO DAHLIA SOCIETY MEETING**

Join this group to learn about the delightful dahlia.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: President, David J. Tooley, 858-672-2593

**JANUARY 28**

**MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB MEETING**

Monthly meetings are free to members. While guests are welcome, there is an admission fee of \$10 for non-members.

When: 6:30 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Where: Mission Hills United Church of Christ, 4070 Jackson St., San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.missionhillsgardenclub.org](http://www.missionhillsgardenclub.org)

**IKERANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 19**

Come for floral arrangements and a lecture on the history of San Diego's Balboa Park.

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Casa del Prado, San Diego, CA

More Information: 858-673-3535, [hiropan8@san.rn.com](mailto:hiropan8@san.rn.com)

**SAN DIEGO GUITO GARDEN CLUB**

Come for the social time and stay for the program.

When: 9:30 a.m.

Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, Encinitas, CA

More Information: Geri Thirloway, President, 858-755-3284, <http://sdgc.klmicro.com/>

## FEBRUARY EVENTS

### FEBRUARY 2

**PALOMAR DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA FLORAL DESIGN FORUM**

Flower Power—come watch as the petals and time fly. Four designers compete using the same flowers and containers.

When: 12:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

Where: Woman's Club, 3320 Monroe Sr., Carlsbad CA

More information: 760-749-4976 75, [www.geocities.com/pgdargenclubs](http://www.geocities.com/pgdargenclubs)

### FEBRUARY 3

**SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING**

The SDCOS is holding two meetings: a general meeting and a novice class for those interested in learning more about orchids. Everyone is welcome!

When: Novice Class 6:30 p.m. General Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 104 (Novice Class), Room 101 (General Meeting) Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego CA

More information: [www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com)

### FEBRUARY 6

**VISTA GARDEN CLUB MEETING**

The Vista Garden Club monthly meeting begins at noon; program begins about 1:15 p.m.

When: 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Where: Gloria McClellan Senior Center, 1200 Vale Terrace Dr., Vista CA

More information: [www.vistagardenclub.org](http://www.vistagardenclub.org)



### FEBRUARY 7

**SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW**

The San Diego Camellia Society hosts its 62nd Annual Camellia Show. Open free to the public. We welcome you to enter your blooms and/or just enjoy the show. To enter blooms, arrive at 8 a.m. on Saturday. Show will open to public at 1 p.m. on Saturday after judging concludes.

When: 1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. (Sat. February 7); 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. (Sun. February 8)

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, San Diego CA

More Information: Dean Turney, 760-942-1919, [huydean@juno.com](mailto:huydean@juno.com)

### FEBRUARY 8

**SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB MEETING**

The San Diego Bonsai Club has two monthly offerings: a 9:00 a.m. classes for beginner and novice members, and a 10:30 a.m. meeting and program.

When: 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego CA

More Information: [www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com](http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com)

### FEBRUARY 9

**SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING**

Join the Hort. Society for The Coastal Gardener's Dave Egbert's talk, "Big Ideas for Small Gardens, Water-Thrifty, Fire-Safe Landscapes: The California Casual Garden." Program followed by plant forum. Admittance for members is free, non-members \$5.

When: 6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Where: Surfside room, Del Mar Fairgrounds, Del Mar CA

More information: 760-295-7089, [www.sdhortsoc.org](http://www.sdhortsoc.org)

### FEBRUARY 10

**DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB**

Monthly meetings are designed to educate by providing interesting and diversified programs.

When: 12:00 p.m.

Where: Stephen Catholic Church, 31020 Cole Grade Road, Valley Center CA

More information: [www.dosvallesgardenclub.org](http://www.dosvallesgardenclub.org)

### SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego Geranium Society meeting features guest speakers, plant raffles and refreshments; plant cuttings are usually available. Bring a friend, bring a plant for raffle and enjoy!

When: 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego CA

More information: Brenda Archer 619-447-8243, [www.sdgeranium.org](http://www.sdgeranium.org)

### FEBRUARY 11

**SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY MEETING**

Come join in and learn about epiphyllums. A special drawing is held among attending members, and all first-time guests are welcomed with a free four-inch potted epi (sign in to be eligible).

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego CA

More information: [www.epiphyllum.com](http://www.epiphyllum.com)

## **FEBRUARY 11** *continued*

### **BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB**

The club's Annual Tea Party with a Recycled Fashion Show.

**When:** Hospitality 9:30 a.m., Meeting 10:00 a.m.

**Where:** Bonita Library Community Room, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita CA

**More Information:** Darlene Montgomery, 619-267-1585, [dmontg@live.com](mailto:dmontg@live.com)

### **POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB MEETING**

"Time to Start Your Spring Garden!" Jodie Bruhn, Master Gardener, will give tips and preparation advice for starting and harvesting your own vegetables and herbs.

**When:** 10:00 a.m.

**Where:** Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, San Diego CA

**More Information:** [www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org)

### **RAMONA GARDEN CLUB**

Come join the Ramona Garden Club for refreshments, door prize, plant swapping, plant sales and program.

**When:** 12:00 p.m.

**Where:** Ramona Women's Club, 524 Main Street, Ramona CA

**More Information:** [www.ramonagardenclub.com](http://www.ramonagardenclub.com)

## **FEBRUARY 14**

### **SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY MEETING**

Learn about bromeliads at this morning meeting.

**When:** 10:00 a.m.

**Where:** Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego CA

**More Information:** [www.bsi.org/webpages/san\\_diego.html](http://www.bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html)

### **SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY WINTER SHOW**

Open to the public, this winter show will feature a number of plants for show and sale.

**When:** 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

**Where:** Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego CA

**More Information:** [www.sdcss.com](http://www.sdcss.com)

## **FEBRUARY 17**

### **CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY—SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MEETING**

Come join in at 6:30 p.m. for a mixer and sales table, then stay for 7:30 meeting. Free to the public.

**When:** 6:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

**Where:** Room 101 or 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego CA

**More Information:** <http://cnpssd.org>

### **LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB MEETING**

Programs, friends and more.

**When:** 1:30 p.m.

**Where:** La Jolla Lutheran Church, 5171 Crystal Drive La Jolla CA

**More Information:** Fran Sheinbein, 858-488-5618

### **RANCHO SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB MEETING**

Join this group for their monthly meeting.

**When:** 9:30 a.m.

**Where:** Contact group for details

**More information:** Carol Wells, 619-749-8325

## **FEBRUARY 18**

### **SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY MEETING**

Monthly meetings are free to the public. For February's meeting we will host renowned Camellia aficionado, Tom Nuccio, of Nuccio's Nurseries in Altadena.

**When:** 7:00 p.m. social; 7:30 p.m. speaker and plant raffle

**Where:** Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego CA

**More Information:** President Dean Gurney, 760-942-1919

## **FEBRUARY 19**

### **BERNARDO GARDENERS GARDEN CLUB MEETING**

A visit to Patrick Anderson's succulent garden.

**When:** Contact group for details

**Where:** Contact group for details

**More information:** [www.bernardogardeners.org](http://www.bernardogardeners.org)

### **CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB**

Come join in the fun!

**When:** 11:45 a.m.

**Where:** Norman Park Center, Chula Vista CA

**More Information:** Marilyn Saleny, 619-421-6072

### **SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY MEETING**

The San Diego Fern Society meeting is an opportunity for people to study ferns together and encourage the joy and use of ferns in gardens, patios and homes. Guests are welcome.

**When:** 7:30 p.m.

**Where:** Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego CA

**More Information:** [www.sdferrn.com](http://www.sdferrn.com)

## **FEBRUARY 22**

### **SAN DIEGO MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY FUNGUS FAIR**

Cultivation, identification, gourmet mushrooms, books, food, lectures by experts and more round out this fun, fungus-filled day.

**When:** 10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

**Where:** Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego CA

**More Information:** [www.sdmco.org](http://www.sdmco.org)

## **FEBRUARY 23**

### **SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY ROSE MEETING**

Visitors are always welcome to the monthly meetings. Little Rose Show and Exhibition 101. Learn tips to enhance the beauty of your blossoms.

**When:** 6:00 p.m. mini-rose show; 6:30 p.m. Pot Luck Dinner; 7:30 p.m. program

**Where:** Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego CA

**More Information:** [www.sdrosesociety.org](http://www.sdrosesociety.org)

## **FEBRUARY 24**

### **BONITA ORGANIC GARDEN CLUB**

Monthly meetings give you a wealth of information on organic gardening.

**When:** 6:30 p.m. social; 7:00 p.m. meeting

**Where:** Bonita Museum, 4355 Bonita Rd, Bonita CA

**More Information:** Bernadette Mingus, 619-200-5073,

[bernadettezingus@yahoo.com](mailto:bernadettezingus@yahoo.com)

### **SAN DIEGO DAHLIA SOCIETY MEETING**

Join this group to learn about the delightful dahlia.

**When:** 7:30 p.m.

**Where:** Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego CA

**More Information:** President, David J. Tooley, 858-672-2593

## **FEBRUARY 25**

### **MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB MEETING**

Monthly meetings are free to members. While guests are welcome, there is an admission fee of \$10 for non-members.

**When:** 6:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

**Where:** Mission Hills United Church of Christ, 4070 Jackson St., San Diego CA

**More Information:** [www.missionhillsgardenclub.org](http://www.missionhillsgardenclub.org)

### **IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 19**

Come learn about flower arrangements from the President of Ohara School, La Jolla.

**When:** 10:00 a.m.

**Where:** Casa del Prado, San Diego CA

**More Information:** 858-673-3535, [hiropan8@san.rr.com](mailto:hiropan8@san.rr.com)

### **SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB**

Come for the social time and stay for the program.

**When:** 9:30 a.m.

**Where:** Quail Botanical Gardens, Encinitas CA

**More Information:** Geri Thirloway, President, 858-755-3284,

<http://sdgc.klmmicro.com/>

## **FEBRUARY 26**

### **CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS—SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MEETING**

Learn how to select and grow rare fruit in San Diego

**When:** 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

**Where:** Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego CA

**More Information:** [www.crfgsandiego.org](http://www.crfgsandiego.org)

### **VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA MEETING**

Guests are welcome to see Marie and Bill Lincoln's program, "The Accidental Chocolate Gardener."

**When:** 10:00 a.m.

**Where:** Torrey Pines Christian Church, 1802 Amalfi St., La Jolla CA

**More information:** Ann Craig, 858-454-4117, [www.villagegardencubloflajolla.com](http://www.villagegardencubloflajolla.com)

## **FEBRUARY 26**

### **FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL, COURSE 2**

This course is sponsored by Southwestern Judges Council and Palomar District

**When:** Feb. 26 and 27, 8:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.; Feb. 28, 8:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Exam

**Where:** Ecke Building, Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas CA

**More information:** Laura Crenshaw, 619-435-2037, [lrock1221@shglobal.net](mailto:lrock1221@shglobal.net)

## **FEBRUARY 28**

### **OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA SHOW AND BAZAAR**

Admission is free. There will be four demonstrations daily on the hour starting at noon. Homemade sushi will be available for sale as well.

**When:** 11:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (Sat. February 28), 11:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (Sun. March 1)

**Where:** Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

**More Information:** Jackie Zhang, 858-454-4793

3  
DAYS  
  
2  
DAYS

# Gardening Classes

## "GARDENING IS FUN!"

Connie Beck helps you solve your gardening problems and find out what's new with this friendly organic gardening group. Cost is \$3.

When: 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m., January 8 through April 2

Where: La Mesa Enrichment Center, 8450 La Mesa Blvd, La Mesa CA

More information: La Mesa Enrichment Center, 619-464-0505

## DO-IT YOURSELF LANDSCAPING

Design your own landscape as a class project with professional help from Connie Beck. Cost is \$32.

When: 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., January 8 through April 2

Where: Santana Adult School, 9915 North Magnolia, Santee CA

More information: Santana Adult School, 619-596-0388

## WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY, PT. LOMA GARDENING CLASS

Learn a variety of gardening tricks every Saturday morning by attending a free class at Walter Andersen Nursery's Pt. Loma Nursery. Please contact the store for a schedule of events.

When: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m., every Saturday

Where: Walter Andersen's Pt. Loma, 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego CA

More information: [www.walterandersen.com](http://www.walterandersen.com)

## WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY, POWAY GARDENING CLASS

Come join others at Walter Andersen's Poway store for a free, weekly seasonal garden lecture. Please contact the store for a schedule of events.

When: 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m., every Saturday

Where: Walter Andersen's Poway, 12755 Danielson Court, Poway CA

More information: [www.walterandersen.com](http://www.walterandersen.com)

## WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN CLASSES

The Water Conservation Garden provides a number of entertaining, information-packed courses covering the most topical gardening topics and presented by skilled and knowledgeable experts. Please contact the Water Conservation Garden for program details and any applicable fees.

When: Contact for program-specific times.

Where: 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon CA

More information: [www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org), 619-660-0614, x10

# Walks, Tours & Garden Events

## QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS TOUR

Come and meet up at the Visitor's Center for a weekly tour of the Quail Botanical Gardens. No reservations required. Free with admission.

When: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., every Saturday

Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas CA

More information: [www.qbgardens.org](http://www.qbgardens.org)

## QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS: CHILDREN'S EVENTS

The Quail Botanical Garden offers a number of events specially designed to entertain and educate children and their caregivers. Please contact Quail Botanical Gardens for a complete listing of their scheduled events.

When: Ongoing—contact for program-specific times.

Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas CA

More information: [www.qbgardens.org](http://www.qbgardens.org)

## QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS: CHILDREN'S EVENTS

The Quail Botanical Garden offers a number of events for adults and families. Please contact Quail Botanical Gardens for a complete listing of their scheduled events.

When: Contact for program-specific times.

Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas CA

More information: [www.qbgardens.org](http://www.qbgardens.org)

## WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN TOUR

Enjoy a docent-led tour of the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College.

When: Every Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and every Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

Where: Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon CA

More information: <http://thegarden.org>

## CNPS NATIVE PLANT WALK

Join landscape architect and member of the CNPS San Diego Chapter Kay Stewart for a two-hour, easy walk into Tecolote Canyon and back. Along the way you'll study and learn about the plants. This guided walk is free.

When: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., first Sunday of the month

Where: Tecolote Canyon Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road, San Diego, CA

More information: <http://cnpsd.org>

## BUENA CREEK GARDENS FREE GARDEN TOUR

Join Steve Brigham for this free, monthly garden tour.

When: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., second Saturday of each month

Where: Buena Creek Gardens, 418 Buena Creek Rd. San Marcos, CA

More information: [www.buenacreekgardens.com](http://www.buenacreekgardens.com)

## SAN DIEGO CHINESE HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND GARDEN

Come visit the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum's exquisite Asian garden.

When: 10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday; 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., Sunday

Where: San Diego Chinese Historical Museum and Garden, 404 3rd Ave.,

San Diego, CA

More information: [www.sdechm.org/garden](http://www.sdechm.org/garden)

# Balboa Park Events

## SAN DIEGO ZOO

Visit the world famous San Diego Zoo for Plant Days and Orchid Odyssey.

When: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., third Friday of each month

Where: San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: [www.sandiegozoo.com](http://www.sandiegozoo.com)

## SAN DIEGO JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

Enhance your well-being with a visit to this Japanese-style garden. There is a \$4 fee for adults, \$2.50 fee for Seniors (55+), children and military with I.D..

When: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday

Where: San Diego Japanese Friendship Garden, 2215 Pan American Road,

Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: [www.niwa.org](http://www.niwa.org)

## BALBOA PARK OFFSHOOT TOURS

Learn about Balboa Park's plants as volunteer horticulturists lead visitors on free, one-hour themed walks. (Inclement weather and low-turnout cancels the tour.)

When: 10:00 a.m., every Saturday starting January 12

Where: Balboa Park Visitor Center, 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: [www.balboapark.org](http://www.balboapark.org)

## BALBOA PARK INTERPRETIVE WALKS

Join volunteer-guides on this free, history-oriented walk through Balboa Park.

When: 1:00 p.m., every Tuesday

Where: Balboa Park Visitor Center, 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More information: [www.balboapark.org](http://www.balboapark.org)

## SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM CANYONEER WALKS

Join trained volunteer guides on a local canyon walks. There is a \$2 fee.

When: Times vary; check website for specific event details

Where: Locations vary; check website for specific event details

More information: [www.sdnhm.org/canyoneers](http://www.sdnhm.org/canyoneers)

**Spring Home/Garden Show**  
**Del Mar Fairgrounds**  
**February 27-28, March 1, 2009**

Friday 11:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Saturday 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Sunday 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

[www.springhomegardenshow.com](http://www.springhomegardenshow.com)





# SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

Garden Center and Library – Founded in 1907

1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684 619-232-5762 Located in Casa del Prado, Room 105, Balboa Park

*Under the sponsorship of the Park & Recreation Department, City of San Diego, California*

**Mission Statement: To Promote The Knowledge And Appreciation  
Of Horticulture And Floriculture In The San Diego Region.**

## GENERAL MEETINGS

**2009**

February 17

April 21

June 16

October 20

Casa del Prado, Room 101  
Balboa Park, San Diego

## OFFICERS

**President**

Nancy Carter

**First Vice President**

Connie Brown

**Second Vice President**

Sandra Graff

**Treasurer**

Constance Whitney

**Recording Secretary**

Kathy Taylor de Murillo

**Corresponding Secretary**

Lucy Kramer

**Historian**

Thea Gums

**Parliamentarian**

Barbara Forrest

**DIRECTORS**

**Term 2006-2009**

Lynne Batchelor

Laura Starr

Kay Harry

**Term 2007-2010**

Joanne Dossett

Michelle Kownacki

Linda Lindgren

**Term 2008-2011**

Sandra Dysart

Cheryl Gaidmore

Amy R. Wood

**Arrangers Guild Chair**

Suzanne Michel

## AFFILIATES:

### CHIRP FOR GARDEN WILDLIFE, INC.

Exec. Director: Maureen Austin  
P. O. Box 532  
Alpine, CA 91903-0532  
619-445-8352  
[www.chirp.org](http://www.chirp.org)

### CITY BEAUTIFUL OF SAN DIEGO

Pres: Kathy Puplava  
P. O. Box 9424  
San Diego, CA 92169-0424  
858-576-3828  
[www.citybeautifulofsandiego.org](http://www.citybeautifulofsandiego.org)

### FRIENDS OF THE HORTENSE MILLER GARDEN

P. O. Box 742  
Laguna Beach, CA 92652-0742  
949-499-5518  
[marshab@gte.net](mailto:marshab@gte.net)

### Friends of Marston Garden

Pres. Bobbie Bagel  
San Diego Historical Society  
1649 El Prado SD. 82101  
619-232-6203  
[www.marstonhouse.org](http://www.marstonhouse.org)  
[Friends@marstonhouse.org](http://Friends@marstonhouse.org)

### JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN BALBOA PARK

Contact: Luanne Lao  
2125 Park Blvd.  
San Diego, CA 92101-4792  
619-232-2721  
[www.niwa.org](http://www.niwa.org)

### PALOMAR DISTRICT CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

Director: Jerry Thirloway  
1105 Santa Madera Ct.  
Solana Beach, CA 92075  
858-755-3284  
[www.californiagardenclubs.org](http://www.californiagardenclubs.org)

### QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS FOUNDATION, INC

Executive Director: Julian Duval  
P. O. Box 230005  
Encinitas, CA 92023-0005  
760-436-3036  
[info@qbgardens.org](mailto:info@qbgardens.org)  
[www.qbgardens.org](http://www.qbgardens.org)

### SAN DIEGO BOTANICAL GARDEN FOUNDATION

President: Ed Hamilton  
2125 Park Blvd.  
San Diego, CA 92101-4792  
619-234-8901  
[www.sdbgf.org](http://www.sdbgf.org)

### SAN DIEGO CHINESE HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND GARDEN

Executive Director:  
Alexander Chuang  
404 Third Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92101-6803  
619-338-9888  
[www.sdchm.org](http://www.sdchm.org)

### SAN DIEGO ZOO

Horticulture Department  
P. O. Box 120551  
San Diego, CA 92112-0551  
619-231-1515 Ext. 4298  
[www.sandiegozoo.org](http://www.sandiegozoo.org)

### SOUTHWESTERN JUDGES COUNCIL

Chair: Sandi Lord  
P. O. Box 876  
Pauma Valley, CA 92061-0876  
760-727-7614  
Meets first Wednesday  
(Sep., Nov., Jan., Mar., May)  
at 10:30 a.m., North County Fair,  
Escondido, Community Room

### TAKA SUMI-E SOCIETY

Contact: Takashi Ijichi  
1455 49<sup>th</sup> Street  
San Diego, CA 92102-2625  
619-255-2501  
[takasumi-e@email.com](mailto:takasumi-e@email.com)  
Meets first Sunday (Feb., Mar.,  
Apr., Sep., Oct., Nov.) from 9:00  
a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Casa del Prado

### WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN

Librarian: Joan Endres  
12122 Cuyamaca College Dr.  
West, El Cajon  
CA 92019-4317  
619-660-0614  
[info@thegarden.org](mailto:info@thegarden.org)  
[www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org)

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES:

### CLASSIC GARDENS

P. O. Box 2711  
La Jolla, CA 92038-2711  
858-459-0316

### MASTER LANDSCAPE SERVICES, INC.

3089C Clairemont Drive #296  
San Diego, CA 92117-6802  
619-296-9687

### SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR, PAUL ECKE JR. FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW

2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd.  
Del Mar, CA 92014-2216  
[www.sdfair.com](http://www.sdfair.com)

### SAN DIEGO COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

Contact: Vickie V. Driver  
4677 Overland Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92123-1233  
858-522-6760  
[www.sdcwa.org](http://www.sdcwa.org)

### JIM STELLUTI CONSULTING LANDSCAPE ARTIST

1928 Madison Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92116-2722  
619-298-7641

## GARDEN CLUBS:

### ALPINE GARDEN CLUB

President: Carlette Anderson  
2451 Night Star Ct.  
Alpine, CA 91901-1449  
619-445-5716  
Meets first Friday at 10:00 a.m.  
Homes of Members

### BERNARDO GARDENERS

President: Adele Kelly  
P. O. Box 27179  
San Diego, CA 92198-1179  
858-673-8728  
[www.bernardogardeners.org](http://www.bernardogardeners.org)  
Meets third Thursday at 1:30 p.m.  
Rancho Bernardo Library

### BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

President: Leslie Schroder  
2476 Eagle Valley Rd. Chula  
Vista, CA 91904  
619-216-8863  
Meets second Wednesday at  
9:30 a.m., Bonita Public Library

### BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB

President: Pat Cooley  
950 Olive Ave.  
Coronado, CA 92118-2710  
619-437-8227  
Meets fourth Monday at 9:30 a.m.  
Winn Room, Coronado  
Public Library

### CARLSBAD GARDEN CLUB

President: Ellen McGrath-Thorpe  
Publicity: Mary Hassing  
P. O. Box 626, Carlsbad, CA 92008  
619-494-7774  
[www.carlsbadgardenclub.com](http://www.carlsbadgardenclub.com)

### CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB

President: Marilyn Saleny  
P. O. Box 57  
Chula Vista, CA 91912-1016  
619-421-6072  
Meets third Thursday at 11:45 a.m.  
Norman Park Senior Center

#### **CORONADO FLORAL ASSOCIATION**

President: Nancy Griffith  
P. O. Box 180188  
Coronado, CA 92118-0188  
619-435-8079

#### **CROWN GARDEN CLUB**

President: Jeanne Bowers  
P. O. Box 180476  
Coronado, CA 92178-0476  
619-435-5474  
Meets fourth Thursday at 9:30 a.m., Coronado Library

#### **DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB**

President: Evelyn Kent  
13224 Blueberry Hill Ln.  
Valley Center, CA 92082-0123  
760-749-5078  
[www.dosvallesgardenclub.org](http://www.dosvallesgardenclub.org)  
Meets second Tuesday at 12:30 p.m., Valley Center Community Hall

#### **FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB**

President: Judy Farnan  
P. O. Box 1702  
Fallbrook, CA 92088-1702  
760-451-0792  
Meets third Wednesday at 7:00 p.m., FPU D Bldg. on Mission Rd.  
Meets last Thursday at 9:30 a.m., Fallbrook Presbyterian Church on Stage Coach

#### **FLEURS DE LEAGUE GARDEN CLUB**

FLEURS DE LEAGUE GARDEN CLUB  
Chair: Louisa Pillsbury  
2140 Paseo Dorado #2  
La Jolla, CA 92037  
858-551-4556  
Meets second Monday at 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members

#### **LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB**

President: Fran Sheinbein  
5171 Crystal Dr., La Jolla, CA 92037-7951  
858-488-5618  
[sey59@shcglobal.net](mailto:sey59@shcglobal.net)  
Meets third Tuesday at 1:30 p.m., L.J. Lutheran Church

#### **LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB**

President: Vernon Bluhm  
710 W. 13<sup>th</sup> Ave. G118  
Escondido, CA 92025  
760-745-4008  
[vbluhm@cox.net](mailto:vbluhm@cox.net)  
Meets fourth Monday at 2:00 p.m., Rancho Bernardo Library, Second Floor

#### **LAS JARDINERAS**

Meets third Monday at 10:30 a.m.  
Homes of Members

#### **MIRACOSTA HORT. CLUB OF OCEANSIDE**

Co-President: Felicia Moscinski  
809 Olive Ave., #40  
Vista, CA 92083-3373  
760-726-4047

Co-President: Don Nelson  
952 Park Hill Drive  
Escondido, CA 92025-4853

#### **760-630-3580 dannelson12@shcglobal.net**

Meets third Saturday  
(Sept.-Jun. only) at 12:45 p.m.  
Miracosta Community College, Student Center Bldg. (upstairs)

#### **MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB**

President: Meredith French  
3145 Brant Street  
San Diego, CA 92103-5502  
619-260-1588  
[www.missionhillsgardenclub.org](http://www.missionhillsgardenclub.org)  
Meets fourth Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

#### **POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB**

President: Julie Hasl  
824 Moana Dr.  
San Diego, CA 92106  
619-564-7036  
[www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org)  
Meets second Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, San Diego, CA

#### **POWAY VALLEY GARDEN CLUB**

Co-President: Rosemary Anderson  
14908 Satusas St.  
San Diego, CA 92129-1529  
858-672-0459

Co-President: Lucille Rosicky  
14809 Priscilla St., San Diego, CA 92129-1524  
858-672-6225  
[lhome.san.rr.com/pvvc](mailto:lhome.san.rr.com/pvvc)  
Meets second Wednesday at 9:00 a.m., Lake Poway Pavilion

#### **RAMONA GARDEN CLUB**

President: Debbie Gomez  
P. O. Box 1412  
Ramona, CA 92065  
760-788-6709  
[www.ramona-gardenclub.org](http://www.ramona-gardenclub.org)  
Meets second Wednesday at 12:00 p.m., Ramona Women's Club

#### **RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB**

President: Carol Wells  
1818 Sonnets Dr.  
El Cajon, CA 92019  
619-749-8325  
Meets third Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.

#### **RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB**

President: Hal Sexton  
P. O. Box 483, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067-0483  
858-756-1554  
[www.rsfjgardenclub.org](http://www.rsfjgardenclub.org)

#### **SAN CARLOS GARDEN CLUB**

President: Marj Myers  
9241 Galston Dr.  
Santee, CA 92071-1510  
619-448-3613  
Meets fourth Tuesday at 9:30 a.m., Homes of Members

#### **SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB**

Pres. Taylor Murphy  
P.O. Box 152611  
San Diego, CA 92195  
619-269-6184  
[www.sandiegogardenclub.org](http://www.sandiegogardenclub.org)

#### **SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

President: Susi Torre-Bueno  
P. O. Box 231869  
Encinitas, CA 92023-1869  
760-295-7089  
Meets second Monday (except June) at 6:30 p.m., Surfside Race Place, Del Mar, Fairgrounds

#### **SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB**

President: Geri Thirloway  
1105 Santa Madera Ct.  
Solana Beach, CA 92075  
858-755-3284  
[sandieguitogardenclub.org](http://sandieguitogardenclub.org)  
Meets fourth Wednesday at 9:30 a.m., Quail Botanical Gardens

#### **VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA**

President: Ann Craig  
1802 Amalfi St.  
La Jolla, CA 92037-3803  
858-454-4117  
[www.villagegardencluboflajolla.com](http://www.villagegardencluboflajolla.com)  
Meets fourth Thursday at 10:00 a.m., Torrey Pines Christian Church

#### **VISTA GARDEN CLUB**

President: Barbara Weiler  
2920 Harris Dr.  
Vista, CA 92084-1418  
760-630-0383  
[www.vistagardenclub.org](http://www.vistagardenclub.org)  
Meets first Friday at 12:00 p.m., Vista Senior Center

#### **IKEBANA SCHOOLS:**

#### **ICHIYO SCHOOL OF IKEBANA SAN DIEGO CHAPTER**

President: Haruko Crawford  
10411 San Carlos Dr.  
Spring Valley, CA 91978-1034  
619-660-2046

#### **IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 119**

President: Hiroko Fukuhara  
c/o S.D. Botanical Garden Foundation  
2125 Park Blvd.  
San Diego, CA 92101-4792  
858-673-3635

[hiropan8@san.rr.com](mailto:hiropan8@san.rr.com)  
Meets fourth Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

#### **IKEBANA CHAPTER OF SAN DIEGO**

President: Mrs. Charles Ochler  
2822 Walker Dr., San Diego, CA 92123-3056  
858-278-5689

#### **OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA LA JOLLA CHAPTER**

P. O. Box 195  
Solana Beach, CA 92075  
858-672-7850  
Meets second Tuesday at 10:00 a.m., La Jolla Library

#### **OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA SAN DIEGO CHAPTER**

President: Jackie Zhang  
6435 Muirlands Dr.  
La Jolla, CA 92037-6310  
858-454-4793

#### **SOGETSU SCHOOL OF IKEBANA SAN DIEGO BRANCH**

Director: Hiroko Szechinski  
10830 Montego Dr.  
San Diego, CA 92124-1421  
858-571-6137

#### **SOGETSU SCHOOL OF IKEBANA**

Master Instructor:  
Sumiko Lahey  
2829 Flax Dr.  
San Diego, CA 92154-2160  
619-429-6198

#### **PLANT SOCIETIES:**

#### **AFRICAN VIOLET CARLSBAD AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY**

President: Patty Regan  
2000 S. Melrose Dr., #119  
Vista, CA 92081  
760-295-0484  
Meets fourth Monday at 10:30 a.m., Vista Library  
700 Eucalyptus Ave.

#### **BEGONIA ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY**

President: Doris Smith  
4505 Long Branch Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92107-2333  
619-222-1294  
Meets second Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members

#### **MABEL CORWIN BRANCH AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY**

President: Denise Knobloch  
465 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue #3  
Chula Vista, CA 91910  
619-409-4997  
Meets second Sunday (except May & Aug.) at 1:30 p.m., Quail Botanical Gardens

#### **MARGARET LEE BRANCH AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY**

President: Michael Ludwig  
6040 Upland St.  
San Diego, CA 92114-1933  
619-262-7535  
Meets last Saturday at 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members

#### **BONSAI HON NON BO ASSOCIATION**

President: Brenda Storey  
9976 Dauntless St.  
San Diego, CA 92126-5514  
858-689-0957  
Meets first Sunday (every other month, begin Feb.) at 10:30 a.m.  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
**SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB, INC.**  
P. O. Box 40037  
San Diego, CA 92164-0037  
619-699-8776  
Meets second Sunday at 10:30 a.m., Beginning & intermediate classes at 9:00 a.m., Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

#### **BROMELIAD BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP OF BALBOA PARK**

President: Joann Dossett  
2871 Brant St.  
San Diego, CA 92103-6119  
619-299-4115  
[jdoss12345@aol.com](mailto:jdoss12345@aol.com)  
Meets second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

#### **SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY**

President: Nancy Groves  
P. O. Box 83996  
San Diego, CA 92138-3966  
858-453-6486 (weekends only)  
[http://bsl.org/webpages/san\\_diego.html](http://bsl.org/webpages/san_diego.html)  
Meets second Saturday at 10:00 a.m., Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

#### **CACTUS & SUCCULENT PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY**

President: Vicki Broughton  
P. O. Box 840  
Escondido, CA 92033  
760-741-7553  
Meets fourth Saturday at 12:15 p.m., Joslyn Senior Center in Escondido

#### **SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY**

President: Mark Fryer  
P. O. Box 33181  
San Diego, CA 92163-3181  
619-795-1020  
Meets second Saturday at 1:00 p.m., Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

#### **CAMELLIA SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Dean Gurney  
467 Sylvania St.  
Encinitas, CA 92024  
760-942-1919  
Meets third Wednesday (Nov.-Apr. only) at 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

#### **DAHLIA SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY**

President: David J. Tooley  
11375 Nawa Way  
San Diego, CA 92129-1116  
858-672-2593  
[djsj21643@aol.com](mailto:djsj21643@aol.com)  
Meets fourth Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

## DAYLILY (HEMEROCALLIS) SOUTHWEST HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY

Contact: Betsy Hamblin  
851 Opal St.  
San Diego, CA 92109-1780  
858-483-5584  
Meets first Saturday (Sept.-May) at  
10:00 a.m., Quail Botanical Gardens

## EPIPHYLLUM SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY

President: Mildred V. Mikas  
P. O. Box 126127  
San Diego, CA 92112-6127  
858-485-5414  
[www.epiphyllum.com](http://www.epiphyllum.com)  
Meets second Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

## FERN SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY

President: Kathie Russell  
1418 Park Row  
La Jolla, CA 92037-3710  
619-464-2609  
Meets third Thursday at 7:30 p.m.  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

## FRUIT CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS

Chair: David Silverstein  
4722 Coronado Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92107-3543  
Meets fourth Thursday  
(except Nov. and Dec. when meets on  
third Thursday) at 7:00 p.m.  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

## GERANIUM SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY

President: Brenda Archer  
6404 Zena Dr.  
San Diego, CA 92115-7026  
619-447-8243  
[www.sdgeranium.org](http://www.sdgeranium.org)  
Meets second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

**HERB**  
**THE SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB**  
Co-Presidents: Judy Dunning &  
Cindi Lohry  
619-579-0222  
Meets first Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.  
Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

**IRIS**  
**SAN DIEGO/IMPERIAL  
COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY**  
President: Edith Schade  
760-788-1376  
Meets second Sunday at 1:00 p.m.  
Please call for newsletter and meeting  
location

## SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY

President: Eileen Fiumara  
4512 Sunnyslope Ave.  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423-3119  
818-986-4188  
Meets first Thursday at 7:30 p.m.,  
Canoga Park Women's Club, 7401  
Jordan, Canoga Park, CA

## NATIVE PLANTS CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

Carolyn Martus  
P. O. Box 121390  
San Diego, CA 92112-1390  
760-434-5033  
<http://cnpsd.org>  
Meets third Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.,  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

## LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB

President: Yolanda Fleet  
3045 Felicia Rd.  
Escondido, CA 92029-6725  
760-745-1219  
<http://lhnpcc.org>  
Meets fourth Monday at 2:00 p.m.,  
Rancho Bernardo Library, 2nd Floor

**ORCHID**  
**SAN DIEGO COUNTY  
CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY  
A BRANCH OF THE CYMBIDIUM  
SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.**  
President: Phyllis Prestia  
3849 Via Del Rancho  
Oceanside, CA 92056  
760-732-0055  
Meets third Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.,  
Carlsbad Women's Club

**SAN DIEGO COUNTY  
ORCHID SOCIETY**  
President: David Brown  
4029 Georgia Street  
San Diego, CA 92103  
619-294-5925  
[posidedon\\_djb@juno.com](mailto:posidedon_djb@juno.com)  
Meets first Tuesday 7:30 p.m.,  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

**ORGANIC  
BONITA ORGANIC  
GARDEN CLUB**  
President: Jane Campbell  
4375 Bonita Road, Bonita, CA  
619-741-8448  
[kreephyhollow@gmail.com](mailto:kreephyhollow@gmail.com)  
Meets fourth Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

**PLUMERIA  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
PLUMERIA SOCIETY**  
President: Roland Dubuc  
760-731-6188  
[www.southerncaliforniaplumeriasociety.com](http://www.southerncaliforniaplumeriasociety.com)  
[ibinternat@aol.com](mailto:ibinternat@aol.com)  
Meets second Sunday 1:00-3:00 p.m.  
in Feb. March, May, June, July, Aug.  
War Memorial Bldg. 3325 Zoo Drive

**ROSE**  
**EAST COUNTY ROSE SOCIETY**  
President: Kristi Sutherland  
2007 Muira Lane  
El Cajon, CA 92109  
619-443-4795  
Meets first Sunday  
(Except Jul and Aug.) at 2:00 p.m.,  
Gardens of Members

**SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY**  
President: Ruth Tiffany  
6705 Maury Dr.  
San Diego, CA 92119-2020  
619-462-5753  
Meets third Monday  
(Mar.-Jun., Sept.-Dec.) at 7:30 p.m.,  
Casa del Prado  
Meets fourth Monday (Jan. and Feb.) at  
7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

## TREES PEOPLE FOR TREES

Pat Stevenson  
P. O. Box 120505  
San Diego, CA 92112-0505  
619-222-8733  
[adoglover1@juno.com](mailto:adoglover1@juno.com)  
Meets fourth Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.,  
743 Imperial Ave.

**WATER GARDEN  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER  
GARDEN SOCIETY**  
President: Ed Simpson  
1302 Avocado Rd.  
Oceanside, CA 92054-5702  
760-436-3704  
[dc@pondplants.com](mailto:dc@pondplants.com)  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sdwatergarden>  
Meets third Sunday (Apr.-Oct.)

Send changes to Affiliates Editor, *California Garden*,  
1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684. Call 619-232-5762  
Email: [membership@sdfloral.org](mailto:membership@sdfloral.org)  
**March/April issue: January 10, 2009.**  
Each affiliate group is entitled to a business-card-sized ad at  
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## In Season

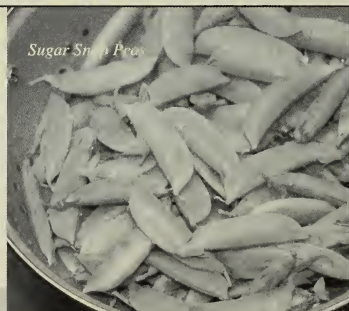
Take advantage of California's bounty with a visit to your local farmers' market. Here are just some of the items that you may find being sold from the stalls in January and February. (For more information about San Diego County Certified Farmers' Markets—and to find out the date and location of the market nearest you—please visit [www.sdfarmbureau.org](http://www.sdfarmbureau.org).)

**January:** Avocados, beans, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cherimoyas, guavas, kumquats, lemons, lettuce, macadamia nuts, strawberries, rhubarb, snow peas, sugar snaps, tangerines, various cut flowers and potted plants.

**February:** artichokes, asparagus, avocados, beans, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, cherimoyas, celery, guavas, kumquats, lemons, Navel oranges, peas, rhubarb, strawberries, tangelos, tangerines, various cut flowers and potted plants.

## Contact Us!

Do you have an event, class or meeting that you'd like to let *California Garden* readers know about? If so, please email [calendar@sdfloral.org](mailto:calendar@sdfloral.org) or [sdfloral@gmail.com](mailto:sdfloral@gmail.com) with your group's name, the meeting date and time, meeting place, any applicable fees, event program and contact information. You may also submit the above information via regular mail, sent to Calendar Editor, San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado Room 105, San Diego CA 92101. Space is limited, so please get in touch today to ensure inclusion! The deadline for the upcoming Mar/Apr 2009 issue is January 10, 2009; the deadline for the May/June 2009 issue is March 10, 2009.





*The first editor of California Garden magazine, Alfred D. Robinson, was well known for his commercial begonia gardens on Point Loma. His talents, enthusiasm and coaching encouraged many early San Diegans to make the most of their gardens. Indeed, numerous vintage Point Loma homes bear remnants of former lath house structures. He also championed and convinced planners to build an immense lath house for the 1915 California-Pacific Exposition in order to show people the botanical potential of the region. To this day, the Botanical Building in Balboa Park is one of the favorite, best recognized and most photographed structures in San Diego.—Lucy Warren*

## February, 1910

### Get a Lath House

By A. D. Robinson

It is a matter for regret and astonishment that in San Diego the lath house as an adjunct to the garden, is the exception, not the rule.

The lath house is efficient, cheap and adaptable, can cover acres, or be squeezed into the backyard of a city lot, can raise salad and fern for the table, or be a windbreak and shade for the baby, and can be so arranged as to make a charming, afternoon tea resort. Let us consider it a little seriously in detail. A fair-sized lath house for the ordinary city garden need not cost to exceed \$20. The flat, low shape of the nursery genus is not arbitrary, there is no reason why a circular one of a summer-house pattern should not be equally effective for growing plants. In fact, the most elaborate example in the state is on H. E. Huntington's place at San Gabriel, and is circular with a dome like the Point Loma Homestead. Therefore, neither cost nor inadaptability in form is worth considering as a drawback.

What are the advantages? In it will grow almost any kind of fern to perfection, including the delicate maiden hairs. Begonias delight in its shelter. Violets make immense blooms and stems, and greatly prolong their blooming season therein. Lettuce can be raised in summer, cuttings rooted, and up the sides and pillars the more delicate vines will gladly climb. However, it is as an outdoor salon, the lath house scores most heavily. With sun and wind tempered to bare heads and light apparel, the hostess can dispense tea and cake surrounded by the delicate green tracery of fern and metallic shield-like leaves of the rex begonias, while the tree frogs punctuate the gossip about airships or gores and gussets, and the more serious discussion of the talent workers and the tree planters. A lath house of a few years standing accumulates that soothing atmosphere of the woods, that faint earthy smell peculiar to ferns and things that love the forest shades. The growing things in it take on



an indigenous charm. Tiny little seedlings sprout in odd places. Some dainty bird, like a wren, with its natty brown dress and tilted tail, will make of it a happy hunting ground, scurrying round from plant to plant with a merry chirp, that plainly says: "Well, fellows! Here we are again."

There is nothing in the garden that can and will make the return in pure unadulterated restful joy than that the lath house will, and San Diegans should wake up to the fact.

**San Diego County Orchid Society**

**PRESENTS**

**The 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Show & Sale**



**Friday, March 13, 2009**

**4 pm to 8 pm**

**Saturday, March 14**

**9 am to 6 pm**

**Sunday, March 15**

**10 am to 4 pm**

**Scottish Rite Center  
1895 Camino del Rio South  
San Diego, CA 92108**

**General Admission - \$6 Children (under 12) FREE**

**[www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com) - for more info, e-mail: [sdorchidshow@aol.com](mailto:sdorchidshow@aol.com)**



*San Diego Camellia Society's*

62<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL  
CAMELLIA SHOW

FEBRUARY 7TH & 8TH ❖ 2009

BALBOA PARK ❖ Casa del Prado ❖ Room 101

OPEN FREE TO THE PUBLIC

❖ Saturday 1 pm - 4 pm

❖ Sunday 9 am - 4 pm

❖ We welcome you to enter your blooms in various categories. Arrive at 8 am, Saturday. Win beautiful prizes.

❖ CAMELLIA PLANT SALE  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY

❖ Monthly Meetings held from November through April ❖ Every third Wednesday of the month ❖ 7 pm ❖ Room 101 ❖ Casa Del Prado ❖ Balboa Park.

CALIFORNIA GARDEN (USPS 0084-020)

San Diego Floral Association, Inc.

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